

Gas tax holiday relief would be mild, temporary

Dwindling supply and strong demand mean higher prices likely to stick around. In Money

Ed Harris loves playing ‘Westworld’ dark villain

Actor enjoys letting his dark side out as Man in Black, who is back for Season 4. In Life

In Gee Chun claims Women’s PGA title

Golfer rallies after losing sizable lead to win her third major title while Lexi Thompson suffers a heartbreaking loss. In Sports

USA TODAY

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM



President Joe Biden signed a gun control bill Saturday. ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Gun law to ‘save a lot of lives,’ Biden says

Democrats plan to push for more restrictions

David Jackson USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Proclaiming that “lives will be saved,” President Joe Biden signed a bipartisan gun bill Saturday designed to keep weapons away from dangerous people, one month after a horrific shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas.

“At a time when it seems impossible to get anything done in Washington, we are doing something consequential,” Biden said at the White House, hailing the gun bill as the most significant law of its kind in “the last 30 years.”

Citing a litany of mass shootings from Las Vegas to Parkland, Florida, Biden said people for too long have urged government to “do something” about the gun problem.

“How many times have you heard that?” Biden said. “Just do something; for God’s sake, just do something. Well, today, we did.”

The law enhances background checks on gun buyers 18 to 21 years old. It encourages states to develop better “red flag” laws that would deny guns to people who are deemed to be dangerous. It adds dating partners to the list of domestic abusers who are prohibited from buying firearms, eliminating the “boyfriend loophole.” Biden cited new crackdowns on gun trafficking and straw purchases.

Biden signed the bill before departing for Europe and a series of meetings with world leaders over Russia’s war on Ukraine.

See GUN LAW, Page 6A

Barcode and publication information: 0 89505 01005 9, HOME DELIVERY, 1-800-872-0001, USATODAYSERVICE.COM

USA TODAY SNAPSHOTS ©

Obstacles in way for trans people

U.S. adults on how much discrimination transgender Americans face today:

Not sure 13%, None at all 8%, Not much 18%, A great deal 36%, A fair amount 25%

SOURCE YouGov poll, April 8 AMY BARNETTE, TIFFANY CLEMENS/USA TODAY

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Court’s legitimacy in question after ruling



Rachel Jakovac is one of the demonstrators who have stationed themselves outside the Supreme Court since it ruled Friday in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization. JOSH MORGAN/USA TODAY

Some smell politics in place supposed to be free of it

John Fritze USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – In December, as the Supreme Court debated whether to overturn Roe v. Wade, Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor posed a dire warning in the form of a question: How would the nation’s highest court, she asked, “survive the stench” of the abortion ruling if it appeared the justices were engaging in politics.

Sotomayor, the most outspoken liberal on the court, said she wasn’t sure it could.

Public approval of the Supreme Court was already falling, and the decision last week to overturn its 1973 precedent and wipe away the constitutional right to abortion amplified skepticism of the court among those who support reproductive rights. For those who oppose abortion, the decision fixed a colossal, decades-old mistake.

See COURT, Page 3A



“This court has lost legitimacy.” Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.



“When you’re saving life, that’s an appropriate role of the state, and that’s what the courts have said the states can determine. Other states might make a different judgment. That’s why we have elections.”

Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, Republican

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

OVERTURNED

SPLIT VOTE: Supreme Court ruling frees states to outlaw abortion

AMERICA DIVIDED: Jubilation and anger as emotions run high

NOT OVER: Abortion battle will continue in state legislatures, courts

AMERICA REACTS: Some herald ‘new era’ as others mourn

Ruling brings joy, anger

Americans react: Some praise “new era” as others lament “dark day.” 1D



McConnell’s vision, legacy

Senator helped engineer the fall of Roe v. Wade and cement his abortion legacy. 5D



Maps show web of laws

Full page of visuals shows how access to abortion varies in US. 6D

Protests around nation

Thousands take to the streets to celebrate and protest decision. 2A

Certain states may become pivotal for abortion access

Chris Kenning USA TODAY

In a one-story brick building in Tuscaloosa in May, the West Alabama Women’s Center had been busy in what director Robin Marty feared was a final stretch of providing abortions before most become illegal in her state.

Before the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, she expected abortion access would probably collapse across the Deep South. That leaves her clients, mostly poor, uninsured women of color, with one last option in the region – if it lasts.

“When we’re gone, they’re going to be – along with everybody else in the South – trying to travel to Florida,” Marty told USA TODAY.

Florida is among several states,

including Kansas and North Carolina, whose decisions on whether to offer abortions will be pivotal to access in the USA, experts and advocates said.

“It would be devastating” if Florida’s abortion protections were overturned because of the distance and costs it would add for women, said Elizabeth Nash, associate director of state issues at the nonprofit Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights.

The Supreme Court’s decision to strip away federal abortion rights means 26 states – many in the South and Midwest – are certain or likely to enact bans, according to Guttmacher. Others on the West Coast and in the Northeast are likely to retain access.

See STATES, Page 3A

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Ruling spurs protests, celebrations

Injuries, arrests reported at some demonstrations

Jeanine Santucci
USA TODAY

Thousands took to the streets, some in celebration and others in outrage, after the Supreme Court’s reversal of Roe v. Wade on Friday, ending the constitutional right to abortion in the U.S.

Demonstrators gathered outside the Supreme Court in Washington. Others carried signs and chanted in cities big and small across the country, including Indianapolis, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and New York City.

Protesters voice outrage

“My mom worked for Planned Parenthood in the 70s right out of college — so it’s blowing my mind that, like, 40 years later, I’m doing the same thing. Same protest. Same signs,” said Megan Schanbacher, a 38-year-old attorney from Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

She attended a rally in Philadelphia on Saturday, and said the Supreme Court has been a driving factor for her in recent elections.

More than 300 of residents, local officials and activists filled College Square on Saturday in Athens, Georgia, about 70 miles northeast of Atlanta. Speakers highlighted the Supreme Court decision had serious implications for the most marginalized groups in Georgia. They also pointed out the decision would not stop abortions but only make it a more dangerous path for many.

“Our ancestors shed their blood, sweat, and tears to fight for the rights that we have today,” said Addison Clapp, a rally organizer. “We’re here because we don’t just support Roe v. Wade. Roe v. Wade is the floor, it’s the bare minimum.”

In South Carolina, about 1,500 people filled the courtyard at One City Plaza in Greenville, chanting and rallying against the Supreme Court ruling.

“My body!” a woman yelled through a speakerphone.

“My choice!” the crowd chanted in response.

Greenville police said several people were arrested during the event. Police said one person was arrested after the event’s permit expired and the person was warned multiple times about blocking traffic. Five others were taken into custody on charges including disorderly conduct, interfering with police and resisting arrest, police said.

Nearly 100 abortion rights protesters addressed Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee and the Supreme Court in a march to the state Capitol building. The state has had a trigger law in place since 2019 that will outlaw nearly all abortions 30 days after the Supreme Court ruling. The state’s Republican leaders have said they don’t want to wait that long.

“Laws off me, Gov. Lee,” Jace Wilder, the march’s organizer, chanted.

March attendee Lauren Oliver, 22, said after the news broke Friday she felt couldn’t just sit back: “This is something that affects everyone.”

Anti-abortion groups celebrate

In smaller numbers, anti-abortion groups countered the larger demonstrations on Saturday. Many said the ruling was just the beginning in the effort to end abortion nationwide.

“Now the battle will continue state by state, and we won’t stop until every innocent human life is protected,” said Kim Schwartz, a spokesperson for Texas Right to Life. The group organized a celebratory rally in Austin.

Police stepped between the two groups as tensions rose in Indianapolis on Saturday, where over 1,000 abortion-rights protesters gathered and more than 200 anti-abortion advocates assembled.

“It’s important that we stand and speak peacefully, and we’re thankful for the conservative things that are taking place in the nation,” said Tammy Delgado, 44, of Indianapolis.

In Kentucky, dozens of people turned out for a “LifeFest: Live, Love, Louisville” event to celebrate the end of Roe.

Peggy Boone, who sits on the board of Right to Life of Louisville, said she was delighted the decision of abortion rights now rests with the states.

“We’re just very happy it’s going back to the states, and it’s illegal here in Kentucky,” Boone said Saturday. “We’ve been working on this for 50 years.”



Supporters of the Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade rally outside the New Jersey Statehouse annex. Thousands took to the streets across the nation to celebrate or protest. CHRIS PEDOTA/USA TODAY NETWORK



Hundreds of abortion-rights protesters demonstrate in Iowa City, Iowa, after the Supreme Court's decision. JOSEPH CRESS/USA TODAY NETWORK



Protesters hold up signs and chant during an abortion-rights rally Saturday, at the Peoria County Courthouse in Illinois. MATT DAYHOFF/USA TODAY NETWORK

Friday protests lead to arrests

Protests on Friday in the hours after the historic ruling mostly stayed peaceful, but in scattered incidents, demonstrators clashed with police and arrests were made.

At one march in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, about 100 miles northeast of Des Moines, at least two protesters were struck by a car, though no serious injuries were immediately reported, police said.

Video of the incident posted to social media shows a truck appearing to drive slowly through a group of protesters in

the street as others chased after it, then fleeing. Lyz Lenz, a local journalist, told The Associated Press that she saw the driver swerve around another car and hit the two women on a crosswalk at about 7:15 p.m., driving over one woman’s foot.

In Los Angeles, marchers walked onto the 110 freeway Friday evening, and were cleared out by police after an unlawful assembly was declared, but nobody was arrested, the LAPD said in a statement. Two people were arrested downtown later, with police reporting that demonstrators threw fireworks and “makeshift weapons” at officers, four of

whom were injured.

In what some Arizona GOP lawmakers are likening to an “insurrection” attempt, police sprayed tear gas at protesters after some began banging against the doors of the Arizona Senate building. Lawmakers, who were in session, were evacuated. The crowd eventually scattered, and no one was arrested.

Contributing: The Des Moines Register; The Arizona Republic; The Providence Journal; The Indianapolis Star; The Austin American-Statesman; The Bucks County Courier Times; The Athens Banner-Herald; Greenville News; The Tennessean; The Associated Press

USA TODAY

Customer service

To view important information online related to your subscription, visit aboutyoursubscription.usatoday.com. You can also manage your subscription at account.usatoday.com. Contact USA TODAY for questions or to report issues via email at feedback@usatoday.com or by phone at 1-800-872-0001. **Operating hours are:** Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. EST

Available subscriptions

Subscribe and save today by visiting usatoday.com/subscribe. The subscription below is billed monthly and includes 24/7 access to usatoday.com, breaking news on our tablet and smartphone apps, subscriber benefits at usatoday.com/memberguide and the eNewspaper, a digital replica of the print edition. Delivery of the Monday through Friday print editions: \$34.00 **Plus applicable taxes*

Contact us

Customer Service	1-800-872-0001
Newsroom	703-854-3400, ext. 5, ext. 5
Classified advertising	1-800-397-0070
National, regional advertising	703-854-3400

Corrections and clarifications

Our goal is to promptly correct errors. Email us at accuracy@usatoday.com to report a mistake. Describe the error, where you saw it, the date, page number, or the URL.

Postal information

Volume 40, No. 200
USA TODAY, USPS #684090, ISSN #0734-7456, is published Monday through Friday at 7950 Jones Branch Dr. McLean, VA 22108. Periodicals postage paid at McLean, VA 22108. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 5830, Augusta, GA 30916

USA TODAY

Dining Deals USA

H4ACV42

BONUS CODE

1) Register and enter codes at: www.diningdealsusa.com

2) Enter today's code before Wednesday, June 29 at 11:59 p.m.

3) Redeem today's bonus code for coupon redemptions that interest you. Coupons cover restaurants, travel, family fun, automotive, shopping and more!

entertainment

DISCOUNTS VARY BY MERCHANT, LOCATION AND OFFER; SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. OFFERS MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. TOTAL SAVINGS VARY BASED ON THE NUMBER OF DISCOUNTS AND COUPONS REDEEMED AND VALUE OF OFFERS.

TODAY'S BONUS CODE

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Court

Continued from Page 1A

Though not unexpected, given the unprecedented leak of a draft opinion in May, the 6-3 ruling to uphold a Mississippi ban on most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy prompted protests over the weekend and sharp recriminations from Democrats.

“This court has lost legitimacy,” Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., said Sunday on ABC’s “This Week.” “They have burned whatever legitimacy they may still have had after their gun decision, after their voting decision, after their union decision. They just took the last of it and set a torch to it with the Roe versus Wade opinion.”

Americans opposed to abortion also turned out over the weekend, and GOP governors vowed to clamp down on access to the procedure. “I think it’s a very appropriate ruling,” Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, a Republican, told NBC’s “Meet the Press.” “When you’re saving life, that’s an appropriate role of the state, and that’s what the courts have said the states can determine. Other states might make a different judgment. That’s why we have elections.”

Entrenched divisions over abortion may further split the nation into two views of the court in the same way voters are divided over the other branches of the government depending on their political affiliations. That raises profound questions for an institution whose legitimacy rests on the notion that it is different from those branches, immune from the partisanship and political pressure that drive Capitol Hill and the White House.

“The ‘stench,’ using Justice Sotomayor’s word, from this conservative majority deciding to strip away from millions of Americans an established constitutional right at the core of bodily integrity and equal citizenship will poison public respect for the court for years to come,” predicted David Gans with the liberal Constitutional Accountability Center.

Conservatives, including those on the Supreme Court, flatly rejected the idea that the ruling will undermine trust in the institution. A central point of Associate Justice Samuel Alito’s 79-page majority opinion is that the Roe decision itself inflamed passions over abortion and raised questions about the court’s legitimacy. The best thing the court could do, Alito reasoned, was to extricate itself from a deeply divisive political battle.



Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor warned of the “stench” of political influence over the court. JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP



Alito

“The majority explains its view that the court’s legitimacy is served best when it has the courage to act as a court rather than a political body,” said O. Carter Snead, a law professor at the University of Notre Dame. “This, in the majority’s judgment, is the proper role of the court, and fidelity to this principle of self-limitation is what confers legitimacy.”

By more than 2-1, 61% to 28%, Americans opposed overturning Roe v. Wade, according to a USA TODAY/Suffolk University Poll conducted before Friday’s decision.

On the other hand, polls have shown most Americans favor some restrictions on the procedure. A majority, 55%, generally oppose abortion in the second trimester, according to a Gallup poll.

Confidence in the Supreme Court took a big hit as the justices considered two major abortion cases this term: a challenge to the Mississippi law banning abortion at 15 weeks of pregnancy and a Texas law that bans the procedure after six weeks. The court repeatedly allowed the Texas law to stand on procedural grounds last year.

Approval of the Supreme Court tumbled again in May after Politico published a leaked draft of the opinion in the Mississippi case – a draft nearly identical to the ruling Friday. About 44% of Americans approved of the way the court was handling its job, down 10 percentage points from March, a Marquette Law School poll showed.

How people feel about the court depends a lot on their party affiliation.

The court’s approval in the Marquette poll rose 4 percentage points among Republicans, who are more apt to oppose abortion, but fell 23 points

among Democrats and 6 points among independents.

“Legitimacy is a matter of what the public believes about the court, not what the court or I believe,” said Neil Siegel, a professor of law and political science at Duke University. “The court cannot turn the clock back to 1973 and ask for a do-over. A solid majority of the country has consistently opposed overruling” abortion precedents.

In the most closely watched and controversial case to arrive at the high court in years, a majority of the justices – all of whom were appointed by Republican presidents – held that the right to end a pregnancy was not found in the text of the Constitution nor the nation’s history. As expected, the decision shifted one of the most intractable culture war debates to states, setting up a patchwork of abortion laws.

A five-justice majority voted to overturn Roe. That was a step too far for Chief Justice John Roberts, nominated by President George W. Bush. Roberts wrote separately to assert the court could have sided with Mississippi while upholding one of the court’s best-recognized – and most heavily debated – precedents. No other justice joined Roberts, an unusual outcome and a repudiation of his incremental approach to decisions.

Several states, including Kentucky, moved quickly in response to the decision, informing residents that trigger laws banning abortions once the Supreme Court overturned Roe were in effect. Liberal states raced in the other direction: California advanced legislation that would add an amendment to the state constitution to protect abortion rights.

In that sense, the opinion turned the issue back to the states, which have driven legal battles over abortion for years – passing laws to chip away at Roe. When Sotomayor spoke of the political “stench,” she was referring to the fact that lawmakers in Mississippi defended the bill by noting the change in composition of the Supreme Court. The Magnolia State passed its law months after Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh, a conservative, replaced Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy, a swing vote.

When Mississippi filed its appeal in early 2020, lawyers for the state argued that the court didn’t have to overturn Roe to uphold the state’s ban. Six months later, Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a Clinton nominee, died. President Donald Trump, who had vowed to name justices who would overturn Roe, selected Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who was seated in October 2020, giving conservatives a 6-3 edge.

When Mississippi filed its next brief in the case nine months later, its argument was sharper: Roe, the state said, was “egregiously wrong” and needed to be overturned.

In their dissent, the court’s liberals touted the justices in 1992 who, in Planned Parenthood v. Casey, upheld the central holding of Roe – a right to abortion under the Constitution – but limited how long into a pregnancy that right could be exercised. The court, Associate Justices Stephen Breyer, Sotomayor and Elena Kagan wrote, worked hard to avoid the appearance of politics.

“The American public, they thought, should never conclude that its constitutional protections hung by a thread – that a new majority, adhering to a new ‘doctrinal school,’ could ‘by dint of numbers’ alone expunge their rights,” the liberal justices wrote. “It is hard – no, it is impossible – to conclude that anything else has happened here.”

From Alito’s perspective, the court in Casey dodged by attempting to quiet passions over abortion with a middle-of-the-road approach. The decades since, he reasoned, underscored that the court had tied itself in knots and never put the issue to rest.

“We cannot allow our decisions to be affected by any extraneous influences such as concern about the public’s reaction to our work,” Alito wrote for the majority in the Mississippi case. “This court cannot bring about the permanent resolution of a rancorous national controversy simply by dictating a settlement and telling the people to move on.”

Contributing: Maureen Groppe

States

Continued from Page 1A

Some states that expect surges in demand as nearby states enact bans face uncertainty because of upcoming ballot measures, hostile legislatures or midterm elections that could oust abortion rights supporters protecting access in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

“Florida in the South, Kansas in the middle of the country and North Carolina further up the southeast coast are just critical access points so that people don’t have to travel even farther,” said Elisabeth Smith, director for state policy and advocacy at the Center for Reproductive Rights.

It’s not just about money for the procedure, she said: “You add in travel costs for several days. Can you get the time off of work, probably unpaid? And can you arrange for child care?”

Shakya Cherry-Donaldson, executive director of the Black women’s advocacy group 1000 Women Strong, works to mobilize voters before midterm elections in Florida, Georgia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Wisconsin to help preserve abortion access.

The issue is likely to bring more people to the polls from both sides.

Why Florida is critical

Some advocates worry about Florida, which has a large population and more than 50 abortion clinics.

Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and South Carolina are all expected to prohibit or severely weaken access. None of the states surrounding Florida has a right to abortion, either in statute or through its constitution, Smith said.

Florida’s Supreme Court found abortion to be a right under the state constitution in 1989. Some advocates expect anti-abortion groups to pursue legal challenges seeking to change that. Nash

said the courts in Florida have become more conservative.

Lawmakers passed a ban on abortions after 15 weeks of gestation, which is set to go into effect in July. Nash said lawmakers could push for shorter bans. Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis tweeted Friday that Florida would “work to expand pro-life protections,” though he did not provide details.

Middlebury College economist Caitlin Knowles Myers projected that 100,000 women across the country in the first year after Roe was struck down would not be able to travel to get an abortion because of all the state bans expected to go into effect. If Florida enacted a full ban, that number would rise to 130,000 because of the state’s population and location in the Southeast, she said.

Mary Ziegler, an abortion law expert at Florida State University, said polling suggests a total ban would be unpopular in Florida and some Republicans seemed reluctant to go that far, at least in the near term. Still, she said, there will be intense interest in Florida as bans are expected nearby.

“Because it’s a different situation for somebody to travel from Alabama to Florida than it is to travel from Alabama to New York,” she said.

As abortion providers gear up for a surge, they wonder how long the policies will hold. “I worry that in a year or so, Florida will be banned altogether. But right now, it’s just too early to tell,” said Kelly Flynn, CEO of A Woman’s Choice clinic in Jacksonville.

Kansas ‘really important’

Though Kansas is a Republican-dominated state, its Supreme Court ruled in 2019 that a pregnant person’s right to personal autonomy was protected under the state constitution, providing protection for abortion, according to the Center for Reproductive Rights.

Democratic Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly has supported the right to abortion despite a Republican-controlled Legislature that has sought to restrict it.



Kelly

“Kansas already is a really important state for abortion care,” said Alesha Doan, a University of Kansas professor of public affairs who studies abortion, citing the state’s central location. Most of the states that border Kansas, apart from Colorado, “are extremely hostile to reproductive rights and abortion.”

Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma have passed near-total bans that were previously not legally permissible, Doan said.

She said Kansas is even more “pivotal” after Roe was struck down and is likely to see an influx of women seeking abortions.

In August, Kansas voters will decide on a ballot measure that declares the state constitution does not grant a right to an abortion. The vote will take place during primary elections when Doan said voter turnout is often low.

More than 60% of residents said they oppose making abortion completely illegal in Kansas, according to a Fort Hays State University poll released in February. It found that 50.5% said the Kansas government should not place any regulations on the circumstances under which people can get abortions, and 25.4% disagreed.

If the amendment passes, Doan predicted that when the Kansas Legislature reconvenes in the spring of 2023, it would introduce “a battery of more anti-abortion bills, ultimately making access impossible.”

Women from the South and Midwest might head to Colorado or Illinois instead of Kansas, but they could find long waits for appointments.

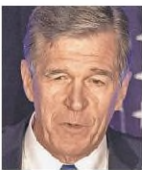
“The reality is, there are not enough providers in half the country. The states where abortion will remain legal can’t make up for all of the needs of people in

the other half of the country,” Smith said. “Providers in Colorado can’t take on all of the needs in Texas and the West. And so you need Kansas both for people coming from the West and also from the Midwest and the South.”

‘Trigger laws’ border NC

North Carolina could be the nearest destination for some in the South. It borders several states that have “trigger laws” to ban or restrict abortion that were set to go onto effect after Roe was overturned.

North Carolina Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed anti-abortion legislation by the Republican-controlled Legislature, which



Cooper

was just short of enough votes for an override – a circumstance anti-abortion activists hope to change in November. “How the election turns out – is going to impact the ability we have to protect abortion access in North Carolina,” Tara Romano, executive director of Pro-Choice North Carolina, told the Fayetteville Observer.

North Carolina’s 15 abortion clinics are preparing for a surge in demand. Woman’s Choice clinics in Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte hired doctors and expanded hours, expecting more clients from Tennessee, Georgia and elsewhere, Flynn said.

If North Carolina lawmakers ban or restrict abortion, Flynn said, it would have a disproportionate impact on low-income women.

“People with resources are able to travel,” she said.

Now that Roe is overturned, Ziegler predicted critical new state battlegrounds in the months and years ahead.

“We’re expecting the South and the Midwest to be places where abortion is broadly criminalized, which means that there’s going to be a lot more interest in what happens in places like Florida and North Carolina,” she said.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Can the US intervene to rescue American veterans in Ukraine?

Any effort faces long haul, significant hurdles

Chris Kenning and Kim Hjelmggaard
USA TODAY

Less than two months ago, the United States won the return of former U.S. Marine Trevor Reed from Russia, where he was serving a nine-year sentence for disputed assault-related charges, by exchanging him for a jailed Russian drug trafficker.

Now, a top Ukrainian official says his country is working toward a prisoner swap to free two U.S. military veterans captured by Russian forces while serving as war volunteers in Ukraine.

But while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he would fight for their release, some experts and former U.S. ambassadors say efforts to negotiate the men's return face far stiffer headwinds, citing a Russian desire to discourage war volunteers by punishing the men and U.S-Russian diplomatic relations being at an all-time low.

"If (the Russians') goal is to discourage people from doing this, if their goal is to punish people who do this, they are not looking to release these people anytime soon," said William Pomeranz, acting director of the Wilson Center's Kennan Institute, which focuses on Russian and Ukraine research.

If the Russians do negotiate, he said, they would demand "high prices in any potential swap."

That could mean a more protracted effort to obtain the release of Americans Alexander John-Robert Drueke, 39, and Andy Tai Ngoc Huynh, 27, who were captured by Russian forces after coming under fire in the northeastern Kharkiv region on June 9.

"We've been telling all of our extended family members that this is a marathon," Drueke's aunt, Dianna Shaw, told USA TODAY.

Shaw, 55, said the U.S. State Department told her family that "every single avenue of communication is being employed" to reach the Russians in an attempt to negotiate their release.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said last week that officials had been in touch with authorities in Ukraine and Russia, but were not provided details about the men's whereabouts. Another spokesperson declined to comment further when reached by USA TODAY.

The Russian military has said it considers foreigners fighting with Ukraine to be mercenaries not protected as combatants under the Geneva Conventions.

Russian spokesman Dmitry Peskov called the men "soldiers of fortune" whose fates would be decided by a court, but he would not rule out the death penalty, he told NBC News.

"They should be punished," Peskov said.

While two Britons and a Moroccan were recently sentenced to death by Russian-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine, several experts told USA TODAY that Russia may be reluctant to further inflame tensions by allowing executions.



Alexander Drueke and his mother, Bunny Drueke. PROVIDED BY DIANNA SHAW

"If (the Russians') goal is to discourage people from doing this, if their goal is to punish people who do this, they are not looking to release these people anytime soon."

William Pomeranz
The Wilson Center's Kennan Institute

In an interview with USA TODAY last week in Kyiv, Major-General Kyrylo Budanov, chief of the Defence Intelligence of Ukraine, confirmed Russian media reports claiming U.S. citizens were being held in a prison in the Donbas and said, "We are working on it."

"The way of resolving it is not easy," he said. "It's complicated, but we do see a way to resolve it. It will be more or less related to a prisoner swap. We have at our disposal people who the Russians want very much, who they need to get back very much."

"It also won't happen in a week or two. It will take a few months."

Budanov declined to comment on how the Americans are being treated, for fear of jeopardizing ongoing efforts to secure their release.

Meanwhile, on Friday, Zelenskyy told NBC he would fight for their release, calling them "heroes."

In an interview as part of the Aspen Ideas Festival, he said he was sure they'd return to their families, adding it was "a great honor that in the world there are some soldiers that are not afraid, and they came to support us and our sovereignty and independence," NBC reported.

While the U.S. State Department and its embassies in Kyiv and Moscow are likely working to win their release, those efforts are hamstrung by the poor state of U.S.-Russia diplomatic relations, said William Taylor, a former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine.

The U.S. has supplied billions in weapons to Ukraine and led an effort to enact financial sanctions on Russia fol-

lowing its invasion. "The diplomatic interaction between the United States and Russia is at an incredible low. There is virtually no conversation going on," he said.

In Pomeranz's view, "There is no reservoir of goodwill on the Russian side that wants to negotiate," he said.

Melvyn Levitsky, a retired U.S. ambassador and professor of international policy at the University of Michigan, said prisoner-of-war swaps tend to be much easier to work out at the conclusion of a conflict. The war in Ukraine shows no sign of ending.

And Levitsky said the war volunteers' presence on a battlefield means a much more complicated set of negotiations in contrast to efforts to return figures detained on the basis of the Russian legal system, such as Reed or WNBA star Brittney Griner, who was detained at a Russian airport on Feb. 17 after authorities alleged that a bag search revealed vape cartridges containing cannabis oil.

Drueke and Huynh are believed to be the first Americans captured by Russian forces since the war began.

"This is kind of uncharted territory," Levitsky said. "My guess is that we'll work out something at some point. But remember, the Russians will have these prisoners as a kind of leverage."

Drueke, an Iraq war Army veteran, and Huynh, who is a Marines, are both from Alabama, but didn't know each other before they decided to travel to Ukraine in April to help repel the Russian invasion, according to their families. Drueke wanted to use his military experience to train Ukrainians on weapons, his family said.

Both families disputed Russian characterizations that they were "mercenaries," noting they paid their own way to reach Ukraine to volunteer.

The two men disappeared around June 9 after a unit they were with came under heavy fire, relatives of both families told USA TODAY, saying they were told by members of the unit the men were accompanying.

Days later, Russian state television showed a video of the two men, confirming that they were taken captive. The Russian media report said the Americans became separated and surrendered to a Russian patrol.

Drueke, speaking into the camera from, sent a message to his mother, concluding with a quick wink:

"Mom, I just want to let you know that I'm alive and I hope to be back home as soon as I can be."

U.S. citizens have volunteered to fight in previous foreign conflicts, including the Spanish Civil War, the First Arab-Israeli War and Syria's civil war, said Nir Arielli, an associate professor of international history at the University of Leeds.

"Here in Britain, the foreign secretary called on the Russian government not to execute two British foreign volunteers who were captured in Ukraine," he said. "I expect Britain is using diplomatic channels to try to secure their release (but) the Russians are playing hardball."

Contributing: The Associated Press

Biden bans Russian imports of gold

Francesca Chambers
USA TODAY

ELMAU, Germany – The U.S. announced on Sunday that it will ban new imports of Russian gold as it steps up efforts to deprive Vladimir Putin of the financial resources he needs to maintain his assault on Ukraine.

Biden administration officials made the announcement as the U.S. president prepared to meet with the leaders of France, Germany, Canada, the UK, Italy and Japan. The nations collectively make up an economic alliance known as the Group of Seven.

"The United States has imposed unprecedented costs on Putin to deny him the revenue he needs to fund his war against Ukraine," President Joe Biden said in a tweet. "Together, the G7 will announce that we will ban the import of Russian gold, a major export that rakes in tens of billions of dollars for Russia."

Other G-7 nations are expected to follow suit, with the United Kingdom being chief among them. The UK imports more gold from Russia than any other G-7 nation.

Gold is a top export for Russia and a source of revenue for the nation.

G-7 leaders will continue to discuss new ways to crack down on Putin for his invasion into Ukraine. They've dedicated their entire Monday morning session to discussing the war, White House guidance on Biden's schedule shows.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will brief G-7 leaders virtually during their session on Monday.

They will work over lunch again, this time discussing climate, energy and health initiatives, before sitting down with guest nations. This year's host, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, invited the leaders of Argentina, India, Indonesia, Senegal and South Africa to attend.

Other takeaways

Speeding up grain exports from Ukraine will be a key topic of discussion for G-7 leaders this week, with Russia continuing to block the nation's grain ships from accessing the Black Sea.

Biden has proposed building grain silos along Ukraine's border with Poland, but the Polish government says constructing the new silos will take months. The White House said Sunday that food security challenges would be a core focus of the G-7.

Biden and G-7 leaders announced the launch of a global infrastructure initiative on Sunday that is meant to help low- and middle-income countries better address their development problems.

"Developing countries often lack the essential infrastructure to help navigate global shocks like a pandemic. So they feel the impacts more acutely, and they have a harder time recovering," Biden said at the initiative's launch. "In our deeply connected world, that's not humanitarian concern, it's an economic and a security concern for all of us."

The U.S. aims to raise \$200 billion for the program through grants, federal financing and private investment. Biden said G-7 nations hope to collect \$600 billion for the projects by 2027.

The president will sign a presidential memorandum that designates clean energy, cybersecurity, high-speed internet, gender equity and vaccine manufacturing as infrastructure priorities, a White House fact sheet said.

One of the first projects the Biden administration will finance is a \$2 billion solar project in Angola.

G-7 nations and the European Union also are investing \$3.3 million in the development of a vaccine manufacturing facility in Senegal that the U.S. says could lead to the production of millions of doses of COVID-19 and other vaccines.

Romania, India and Côte d'Ivoire also stand to benefit from the program.

The G-7's infrastructure investments are intended to act as a counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative and are part of Biden's push for democratic nations to compete more forcefully against China.

NEWS BRIEFING

Russia gains ground with 'burnt Earth' tactics

Russian troops have focused the fury of their bombardments on the eastern city of Lysychansk while also targeting Kyiv and other areas around Ukraine after capturing Sievierodonetsk, Ukrainian officials said Sunday.

Lysychansk is the last city in the Luhansk Oblast to remain under the control of Ukraine forces. Russia already controls about half of the Donetsk Oblast – the two provinces make up the Donbas region that has been the target of Russian forces since an early, failed effort to storm through Kyiv.

Vitaly Kiselyov, an official with the self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic, said about 600 Ukrainian fighters surrendered near Lysychansk. Regional governor Serhiy Haidai wrote on Facebook that the Russian military is sticking to "burnt earth" tactics, such as those that devastated most of Sievierodonetsk.

"There is a lot of destruction. Lysychansk is almost unrecognisable," Haidai wrote. "The TV tower fell, the multi-story buildings burned. Bridges leading

to the city are under fire and damaged."

Impostor posing as Kyiv mayor converses with European mayors

Kyiv Mayor Vitaly Klitschko warned that an impostor posing as him called several mayors via video around Europe. The German publication Bild reported that Mayor of Vienna, Austria, was not aware he was talking to a fake Klitschko during the entire call.

The mayors of Madrid and Berlin figured it out after lengthy conversations, Bild said. Berlin Mayor Franziska Giffey asked the State Criminal Police Office to investigate.

"It's a tool of modern warfare," she said.

Blinken: Kyiv attack meant to 'terrorize' Ukrainians

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday during an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union" that Russian President Vladimir Putin has "already

failed" in his attempt to overturn Ukraine. "His strategic objective was to end Ukraine's sovereignty and independence, to erase it from the map, to subsume it in Russia. That has failed," he said, adding that a "sovereign independent Ukraine is going to be around a lot longer than Vladimir Putin is on the scene."

The Associated Press reported that Russia was advancing in eastern Ukraine and launched attacks overnight that hit two residential buildings and a kindergarten in Kyiv. Russia's invasion began in February with a march on Kyiv that failed, forcing Russia to turn its attention to the east. Blinken said the missile attacks on Kyiv were designed to "terrorize" Ukrainians.

"Ever since Putin lost the battle for Kyiv, he had to shift his focus," Blinken said, adding that Russian forces have "launched missiles at a distance to terrorize people."

Contributing: John Bacon, Francesca Chambers and Merdie Nzanga, USA TODAY

Office DEPOT.
OfficeMax®



Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM

PRINT IT ALL PERFECTLY

with HP Printers

Inkjet Printers for Business Use



>20 Blk 10 Clr ppm >225 Sheet Cap

6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

224⁹⁹

HP OfficeJet Pro 8025e
Wireless Inkjet
All-In-One Color Printer
Wireless Print, Copy, Scan & Fax
5083118



>20 Blk 10 Clr ppm >225 Sheet Cap

12
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+²

249⁹⁹

HP OfficeJet Pro 8035e Wireless
Color Inkjet All-In-One Printer
Wireless Print, Copy, Scan & Fax
9848742



>22 Blk 18 Clr ppm >250 Sheet Cap

6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

289⁹⁹

HP OfficeJet Pro 9015e
Wireless Color Inkjet
All-In-One Printer
Wireless Print, Copy, Scan & Fax
5163725

Inkjet Printers for Everyday Use



>8 Blk 5 Clr ppm >60 Sheet Cap

6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

124⁹⁹

HP DeskJet 4155e Wireless
All-In-One Color Printer
9034911



>10 Blk 7 Clr ppm >100 Sheet Cap

6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

169⁹⁹

HP ENVY 6055e Wireless
All-In-One Color Printer
9308714

Not available in all stores. Call store for availability.



>10 Blk 7 Clr ppm >100 Sheet Cap

6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

189⁹⁹

HP ENVY 6455e Wireless
Color All-In-One Printer
8257607

Not available in all stores. Call store for availability.

>15 Blk 10 Clr ppm
>125 Sheet Cap

Save \$40
189⁹⁹

Reg. \$229.99

HP ENVY Inspire 7255e
Wireless Color All-In-One Printer
7303226



6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

>15 Blk 10 Clr ppm
>125 Sheet Cap

269⁹⁹

HP ENVY Inspire 7955e
Wireless Color All-In-One Printer
8571850



6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

Laser Printers

>21 Blk ppm
>150 Sheet Cap

\$129

HP LaserJet M110we
Wireless Black & White Printer
6118121

Online only.



6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

>21 Blk ppm
>150 Sheet Cap

\$169

HP LaserJet MFP
M140we Wireless All-In-One
Black & White Printer
7320040

Online only.



6
Free
months
of instant ink
with HP+¹

Rewards members get

\$2 back in rewards
when you recycle
your ink and toner
cartridges.

Up to 10 cartridges per month.
See below for details.

Recycling
rewards
available
next day
when you
recycle in store!

Not a member?
Join today

Rewards members get

30% back in
bonus
rewards

on ALL INK & toner

No minimum purchase required.
Rewards limited to \$150 per member

Valid only at [officedepot.com](#) or in store from
5/15/2022 to 9/24/2022 or while supplies last,
whichever occurs first. Must present this coupon
(reproductions not valid) and Office Depot®
OfficeMax® Rewards Member # to cashier in store
at the time of purchase. Enter coupon code to cart
online at checkout. VIP Members will receive 30%
bonus rewards only. Cannot be combined with:
1) VIP Member 5% program benefit; 2) other Bonus
Rewards offers on the same or similar products and
services; or 3) Store Purchasing or Store Discount
Cards. No cash back. Void where prohibited.
Coupon expires 9/24/2022 11:59 PM ET.

Coupon Code: 18206980

Office DEPOT. OfficeMax



FREE In-Store & Curbside Pickup*

Ready in 20 minutes* or get \$20 off your next qualifying purchase.**

*Curbside pickup is available in most stores, subject to state and local regulations.
Orders must be placed 1 hour before store closing.

**\$20 coupon excludes tax. No cash back. Other restrictions apply. See email for coupon terms and conditions.

Office Depot reserves the right to modify or cancel the offer at any time. Visit [officedepot.com/pickup](#) for details.

†Same-Day Print Services are excluded from 20 minute pickup.

Prices and offers available in store and [officedepot.com](#) only 6/26/22 – 7/2/22 or while supplies last, whichever occurs first. Prices and offers are not available in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and are not available in Office Depot or OfficeMax clearance/closing stores. Not all items are available for in-store or curbside pick up. Coupons and free gift offers cannot be combined with Reward Member and Business Select Member item prices. If you present a coupon or if there is a free gift offer, we will do the math and calculate the better price. You will get the in-store price/free gift offer or your Reward Member or Business Select Member price, whichever is the lower price/better value. No rain checks or substitutions except where required by law. We reserve the right to limit quantities sold to each customer. We are not responsible for errors. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. **Office Depot® OfficeMax® Rewards ("Program")**: Rewards are earned on the price paid for an item or service before tax and after deducting all discounts, the value of free gifts and the value of any rewards and/or merchandise certificates/cards applied to that purchase. No rewards are earned on delivery fees; postage stamps; gift or pre-paid cards; Secure Shredding and Storage services; Office Depot Marketplace items; tech, furniture, marketing or administrative services; or any third party services. Program rewards are paid out monthly online only as a rewards certificate when a minimum of \$3 is earned. Program rewards will expire at the end of each calendar quarter if less than \$3 has been earned. Bonus rewards are paid out separately and do not contribute to the calculation of Program rewards. Rewards certificates are redeemable for future purchases at Office Depot and OfficeMax stores, [officedepot.com](#), or by phone at 800-50-DEPOT. Limit 1 account per household/business. Visit [officedepot.com/rewards](#) or call 1-866-562-3872 for Terms and Conditions. **Recycling Rewards**: \$2 back in rewards is earned for each recycled cartridge, up to 10 per month, when you make a \$10 qualifying purchase in the same month. \$10 qualifying purchase is required after discounts and excludes tax, delivery fees, purchases of all gift and prepaid gift cards, postage stamps, and purchases made with rewards and/or merchandise certificates/cards. We do not accept damaged cartridges. Recycling Rewards will post to a member's account the next day after the \$10 qualifying purchase is met. **6 free months of ink with HP+**: HP Instant Ink sign up required. Instant Ink not available in all countries. Subject to monthly page limit of plan selected. Must complete Instant Ink sign up within 7 days of setting up the printer with the HP-recommended setup process as indicated in the instructions that came with your printer. Unless service is cancelled within the promotional period online at [www.hpinstantink.com](#), a monthly service fee, based on the plan chosen, plus tax and coverage fees will be charged to your credit/debit card. Customer will be charged for any overage fees and applicable taxes at the end of each month in the promotional period. Use of in-box ink or toner cartridge is included in period of offer. One offer redeemable per printer. Included months offer with Instant Ink subject to change after 12.31.2022. Offer cannot be redeemed for cash. Setup Offer may be combined with other offers: see terms and conditions of the other offer for more details. Requires a valid credit/debit card, an email address, and Internet connection to printer. See additional offer information available during online sign up process. For service details, see [www.hpinstantink.com](#). **12 free months of Instant Ink with HP+**: HP+ offer of 6 months free trial to be combined with a \$36 credit that will be added to your account. This will cover 12 months of service on a monthly \$5.99 plan. Other plans are available for different lengths of time. After you have successfully registered your printer and created your HP Connected Account and Service Account, you must redeem your offer and select an Instant Ink plan. The Service begins when the offer is redeemed. Rollover allows unused pages in a month to be placed in a rollover account and then applied to pages in excess of your monthly allowance. The rollover account balance is limited to a maximum of twice the pages available in your plan. The ink balance will be decremented for any overage fees, resulting in less months of printing. Redeeming your offer requires Internet connection to eligible HP printer, email address, and delivery service in your geographic area. Printers require direct connection to the Internet for program participation. Unless service is cancelled within promotional period online at [www.hpinstantink.com](#), a monthly service fee, based on the plan chosen, plus tax and coverage fees will be charged to your credit/debit card. One offer redeemable per printer. Offer valid through December 31, 2022. Offer cannot be redeemed for cash. For service details, see: [www.hpinstantink.com](#).

Office Depot® is a trademark of The Office Club, Inc. OfficeMax® is a trademark of OMX, Inc. ©2022 Office Depot, LLC. All rights reserved.

POLITICS

Jan. 6 hearings drew 20 million viewers

Prime-time ratings were strong, but lagged since

Rebecca M...
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – All Diane Webb wants to know is the truth behind what happened at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Webb, 57, who lives in Wichita, Kansas, is worried about conspiracy theories and people spewing misinformation on social media. So when she saw online that the Jan. 6 committee was laying out their findings, she wanted to get the “information firsthand for myself.”

From there, she wanted to make her own determination about former President Donald Trump’s involvement.

“I want to hear and be able to come to the conclusion of did he or did he not on my own,” said Webb, an independent who watched the prime-time hearing and subsequent hearings on ABC News. “And not being influenced by outside people or groups or politicians.”

At least 20 million people tuned into the first prime-time Jan. 6 committee hearing on June 9. Major news networks such as CNN, MSNBC, CBS, NBC and ABC News aired it, along with C-SPAN. NBC News NOW and USA TODAY livestreamed the hearing online. Fox News was the only national outlet to not air the hearings live. Detractors have called it a “waste of time.”

Since then, the average has dipped into the low millions as the hearings have been taken out of the prime-time slot.

In interviews with USA TODAY, Americans from across the political spectrum have tuned in to the hearings to find out the truth about what happened during the riot Jan. 6, 2021.

Viewers said they want to see accountability for what happened that day at the U.S. Capitol – even against former President Donald Trump, if it’s warranted.

“Who says the next person they come up behind him, behind Biden or whoever, won’t do the same thing?” said Webb, a retired foster care case manager. “If I have to give accountability, then I don’t care who you are, the president of the United States has to give accountability as well.”

As the hearings continue, Wedd said she believes it’s important for people to pay attention because “we cannot set the precedent for someone with that much power to to get away with things like this.”

Webb said, “It is important. It is important for voters to know so that they can be informed so they can know who to vote for in the next election.”

Remus Bowman, who grew up in a military family, said love for this country runs deep.

The 66-year-old, who is from New Orleans and served in the Marine Corps, said he was shocked. How could this guy become president and a traitor to the country all at the same time?

Bowman is glued to the TV. After watching the hearings, he said Trump and his followers are resisting the changing demographics of the USA and perceive it as a loss of power.

“They’re afraid of the inevitable that the United States at some point, not too long from now, is gonna be a predominantly brown country,” Bowman said, adding that’s what he thinks was behind the events of Jan. 6.

“They had a process in place where Donald Trump was probably trying to convert the United States into a very authoritarian country. The plans that these people actually had to destroy this country, to take away democracy.”

Once the committee’s hearings are



The House Select Committee hearing to Investigate the January 6th Attack meets on Capitol Hill on June 23. MANDEL NGAN/POOL

over, Bowman said, he wants to see Republican senators and congressmen lose their jobs.

“They’re traitors to democracy,” he said. “There are traitors to the Constitution.”

“Their job is to protect the country, and they’ve given up that responsibility.”

Bowman pointed to Rep. Mo Brooks, R-Ala., saying that he incited people to attack the Capitol.

Bowman said he wants to see Trump go to jail, though he noted that probably won’t happen.

“I would like to see him pay a debt for what he’s done,” he said. He said rioters never would have come to the Capitol “had it not been for the fact that they had a president of the United States invite them to come and attack the government.”

“It is hard to believe that they have taken this country and turned it inside out.”

‘I want the book thrown at them’



Stahl

Judy Stahl considers herself an outlier from the average American when it comes to her interest in politics – going as far as running for office.

When she saw the Jan. 6 committee was going to hold a prime-time hearing, she knew she wasn’t going to miss it.

Stahl, a Democrat who ran for Congress, was driving down from Prescott, Arizona, to her sister’s ranch in Patagonia, near the southern border the same day as the hearing.

On the way, she needed to stop by several friends’ houses, one in Phoenix and the other in Tucson.

Stahl, 62, pulled into the driveway three minutes before 5 p.m. MST – the time the hearings began in Arizona.

“I came into the house and sat down and was glued to the screen. I tell you, I was bound and determined I was not going to miss a minute of it,” Stahl said. Stahl said it’s important for her to watch the hearings because she has seen how her state has become a “nest for conspiracy theories.”

“Where I live I am in the minority in my beliefs, but I know that as a nation, I’m in the majority, and I refuse to be silent,” Stahl said.

She said she hopes that Trump and other lawmakers and officials are held accountable for the Jan. 6 insurrection.

“I want to see them held to the highest standards of our laws, whether that means that the criminal Trump goes to prison, that everybody who has held an elected position or an appointed position, that that they are stripped of whatever benefits they got from supposedly serving in any capacity in the United States government,” Stahl said.

“I want the book thrown at them.”

‘Supposed to be sacred’

When Trump was elected, Jesse Rodriguez gave him the benefit of the doubt.

Even though he considers himself a Democrat, he has voted Republican “at times.”

Rodriguez, 23 said he would like to see him in jail after the Jan. 6 riot.

Rodriguez said many around him in the rural town of Garden City, Kansas, believe those who rioted at the U.S. Capital on Jan. 6 were “true patriots.”

He doesn’t see it that way. “It’s not everyday that you see people here going and rioting at our nation’s Capitol, a place that’s supposed to be sacred,” he said. “It’s not what we should be standing up for as a nation.”

Rodriguez said he heard about the hearings after several politicians tweeted about them. Although he doesn’t have cable, Rodriguez said he streamed the hearings through Peacock.

“It’s something serious. People went in there with the intent of trying to overthrow the government,” he said. “They tried to go after like Nancy Pelosi and also Mike Pence as well. People that shouldn’t be touched in that way.”

He said Trump going to jail would set a precedent that no leader can try to overturn an election.

“None of our ex-presidents have tried to do that type of stuff, at least in the way that he’s done it,” he said. “It shouldn’t have to be something that we sweep under the rug and move on from it.”

For Noah Mitchell, 19, the Jan. 6 riot hit close to home.

Mitchell, a student at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, lives on Capitol Hill and watched the hearings at home. Mitchell said he comes from a family very interested in politics and watched the first hearing live with his mom in his basement.

Mitchell, who is majoring in political science, said he watches the hearings to see how people respond to the findings and what they mean for elections – especially among the Republican Party.

As the committee reveals more information on Trump and his allies’ actions to overturn the election, Mitchell said he is interested in learning more of who was involved.

“It seems that there’s a much larger narrative, a larger story in that the president and those around him were planning to stay in office despite knowing that he lost the election,” Mitchell said.

There are two outcomes Mitchell said he wants to see: for the Republican Party to be accountable and for the American public to see there was a coordinated effort to overturn the election.

“I hope Americans can see that it wasn’t just a bunch of people who showed up to the Capitol on Jan. 6 and

just went inside,” Mitchell said. “That it was a coordinated thing that went on from the election.”

Amid worries about the economy, inflation and COVID-19, Franco Caliz, 33, said it’s easy for people to forget about what happened on Jan. 6.

Caliz, who lives in Miami, said that when he brings up that date, he often gets a “huh?” look across the face of those he’s talking to. Caliz said what happened that day was “criminal.”

“I don’t think we should be letting people off the hook who helped create that situation in the first place,” he said.

Caliz, who watched the prime-time hearing on CBS News, said he wants Republicans who helped assist with the riots to be held accountable, adding that it’s crazy that some members of Congress sought pardons.

If a lawmaker “were in cahoots with the White House in terms of trying to figure out how they could best support these people who were literally acting in a criminal manner and who were attacking our freedom to me, like that’s what the goal of the hearing should be,” Caliz said.

Caliz said the insurrection could have long-term effects on democracy. He said that inflation will get better and that the economy constantly moves back and forth but that “democracy is an incredibly fragile thing.”

“It’s something that we all talk about has been frayed and pushed to the edges more and more with the hyper partisanship that there is,” he said. “There’s a line where you cross what is tolerable and it is hard to come back from that line in our political discourse.”

‘Democracy is not free’

For María Aviles, being politically engaged started at a young age.

As a child, Aviles saw her mother vote in every election, as the precinct was at



Aviles

her elementary school in her hometown of Tucson, Arizona. Aviles’ father got involved in activism after a private developer tried to expand a golf course in her neighborhood that would have eliminated an area for children to play.

Though it took time, her dad was on the winning side and got a park built instead.

Aviles said those events sparked her interest in staying engaged – seeing democracy work for her parents, who immigrated from Michoacán, Mexico.

The 2016 election was a turning point for Aviles, who said Trump’s campaign was “tearing people apart.” Aviles, 45, said she saw the thousands of people storming the Capitol as a sign of the “permanence” of Trump’s message.

“There was a little bit of that cognitive dissonance right where you’re like, ‘This is really happening,’ and then when it wouldn’t stop, then it was like, a sense of panic,” Aviles said. She said the people who rioted were not Americans because they didn’t believe in the Constitution and peaceful transfer of power.

“That to me was like, ‘Oh, this is so bad,’” she said. “We can have political differences, right? But this was the concept itself. Like the platform under which we all can argue our points of view just not existing anymore.”

Aviles, who watched the hearing the first night on MSNBC with her husband at home in Goodyear, Arizona, said she hopes that through the hearings, Americans will be able to “put the puzzle together” on what happened at the Capitol that day and what led to those events.

“Democracy is not free, and you can lose it much easier. That’s kind of the part that scares me and makes me kind of sad,” Aviles said. “That’s troubling to me that it could be lost because we just weren’t paying attention.”

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM

Gun law

Continued from Page 1A

Biden said that “God willing,” the law will help “save a lot of lives.”

Last month, 19 children and two adults were killed at an elementary school in Uvalde.

The new law lacks more far-reaching items sought by Biden and congressional Democrats.

Republicans balked at those propos-

als, calling them encroachment on the Second Amendment.

A smaller group of Republicans agreed to the scaled-down gun bill, enough to get it through the Senate while avoiding a filibuster.

Gun rights groups protested the final product. “These measures were hastily jammed through with ambiguous language and overbroad definitions to appease gun control supporters in Congress,” The National Rifle Association said.

Democrats said they wished the law

would go further but supported it as better than nothing. They vowed to push for more restrictions on guns.

“This bill does not do everything we need to end gun violence,” said Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., “but doing nothing was the most extreme option on the table.”

Gun control organizations that have lobbied the government for years praised the legislation.

John Feinblatt, president of the organization Everytown for Gun Safety, called it “a long-overdue step to address

a public health crisis that has turned us into a nation of survivors, many of whom have turned their pain into action and their actions into a movement.”

Citing Republican support for the gun law amid a deadlock on other issues, Biden called for bipartisan action on other fronts.

“If we can reach a compromise on guns,” he said, “we ought to be able to reach a compromise on other critical issues on veterans’ health care, cutting-edge American innovation and so much more.”

OPINION

WANT TO COMMENT? Have Your Say at letters@usatoday.com, [@usatodayopinion](https://twitter.com/usatodayopinion) on Twitter and facebook.com/usatodayopinion. Comments are edited for length and clarity. Content submitted to USA TODAY may appear in print, digital or other forms. For letters, include name, address and phone number.



Justices Alito, Kavanaugh, Thomas and Kagan, Chief Justice Roberts, Justices Gorsuch, Breyer, Barrett and Sotomayor. PROVIDED BY ERIN SCHAFF/POOL

States can make abortion decisions but not gun ones?

Thank the Court That Trump Built for confusion



Richard Wolf
Former Supreme Court reporter

Please excuse your family, friends, neighbors and colleagues if they are confused by the Supreme Court.

One day, the Court That Trump Built says states cannot decide for themselves whether to let guns proliferate in public. The Constitution, apparently, says virtually all Americans can take them to the streets.

The next day, the same conservative justices say the Constitution does not protect a woman's right to choose an abortion. That decision should be left up to the states.

Never mind that in the case of guns, the Second Amendment gives people the right to "keep and bear Arms" because the fledgling nation of 1791 needed a "well regulated Militia." It wasn't to protect every 18-year-old's right to shoot up an elementary school, a supermarket or a church with an AR-15-style rifle.

And never mind that when it comes to abortion, the 14th Amendment forbids laws that "deprive any person of life, liberty or property." The liberty of women to control their own bodies apparently doesn't merit inclusion, which in turn will endanger many of their lives.

Most of the court's conservatives like to tie themselves in straitjackets when it comes to decisions such as these. Follow the Founders, they say. Stick to the text of the Constitution. So what if muskets were the weapons of choice in the 18th century and women lacked the right to vote until the 20th.

Honor precedent. Or not.

Americans' confusion might stem from the justices' confirmation hearings, when they pledged to honor the court's precedents. Of *Roe v. Wade* (1973), Justice Neil Gorsuch said, "It has been reaffirmed many times." Of *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992), Justice Brett Kavanaugh called it "precedent on precedent." Of the traditional regard for such precedents, Justice Amy Coney Barrett pledged to "follow the rules of stare decisis."

Except when they don't.

You've got to hand it to the conservatives, however, when it comes to sticking to their beliefs.

Unlike the lawmakers who inhabit the other two branches, the justices weren't influenced by politics: Their rulings on guns and abortion are likely to galvanize Democrats and liberals. Nor did they kowtow to current events, choosing instead to broaden gun rights

on the heels of several mass shootings.

Up next term: affirmative action in university admissions. Look for the court to reverse rulings from the past two decades that upheld the limited use of racial preferences.

Also on the chopping block: state laws prohibiting discrimination against LGBTQ customers in the marketplace. The court appears likely to side with merchants who refuse to serve same-sex weddings.

How did we get here?

Senate Republicans blocked President Barack Obama's third Supreme Court nominee in 2016, leading to Gorsuch's confirmation a year later. Justice Anthony Kennedy, a Reagan nominee who nonetheless defended abortion, affirmative action and LGBTQ rights, retired in 2018 and was replaced by Kavanaugh. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died in 2020 and was replaced by Barrett.

Trump's three judges all were born during or shortly after Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, when liberals ruled the roost. In all likelihood, they will be on the nation's highest court for at least three more decades. This does not bode well for progressives.

What conservatives hide behind

Nor does it bode well for the reputation of the court, at least until now the most popular of the nation's three branches of government. Consider: In the case of guns, it decided that New York has had an unconstitutional law on its books for the past 111 years. In the case of abortion, it said a mere 49 years had passed since the justices' predecessors issued a ruling that was "egregiously wrong," with "exceptionally weak" reasoning.

Instead, the Court That Trump Built said, guns should be regulated – or not – based on the nation's history and tradition. Ah, things were so much simpler in 1791.

And when it comes to abortion, Kavanaugh in particular stressed that the court should be "neutral" by putting its thumb on the side of political state legislators rather than, say, women.

So off they go, these conservatives, to hide behind their interpretation of what the Founders said in the 18th century and what it means today. Liberal Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan referred to it as a "pinched view of how to read our Constitution."

The rest of us might just call it confusing.

Richard Wolf reported on the Supreme Court, the White House and Congress during a 45-year career in journalism. Follow him on Twitter: @richardjwolf

School choice ruling a win for kids and parents

Unfortunately, some states can avoid change



Ingrid Jacques
USA TODAY

Since COVID-19 emerged in early 2020, families have had their children's education upended.

Many public schools remained shuttered to in-person learning for more than a year, leaving parents with few options – especially if they couldn't afford private schools that were much more likely to keep their classrooms open during the pandemic.

The frustration that ensued from parents juggling work and their children's learning, as well as the depression many students suffered while being stuck at home, spurred an explosion of school choice initiatives around the country.

Last year, more than 20 states created or expanded these programs, including education savings accounts or tax credit scholarship programs that can be used at private schools.

School choice, religious freedom

A new decision by the U.S. Supreme Court will surely add to this momentum. In a 6-3 ruling in *Carson v. Makin* on Tuesday, the court once again sided strongly with both school choice and religious freedom.

This case, out of Maine, had many similarities with the 2020 *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue* decision. It found that the government could not prevent parents from choosing religious schools within a private educational choice program, and that discrimination based on the faith "status" of a school violates the First Amendment.

Maine had attempted to bypass this ruling by drawing a convoluted distinction between "status" and "use" – saying it didn't want taxpayer dollars going to religious instruction. The state grants tuition assistance to families who live in rural areas without a public school so students can attend either a nearby district or a private school, but it stopped short of allowing parents to choose sectarian schools.

Since faith-based schools are going to integrate religion into their curriculum, this was a flimsy argument.

"There is nothing neutral about Maine's program," wrote Chief Justice John Roberts in the majority opinion. "The State pays tuition for certain students at private schools – so long as the schools are not religious. That is discrimination against religion. A State's anti-establishment interest does not justify enactments that exclude some members of the community from an otherwise generally available public benefit because of their religious exercise."

The Institute for Justice represented the families in the *Carson* case, as it had in *Espinoza*.

"(The) decision makes clear, once and for all, that the government may not bar parents from selecting religious schools within educational choice programs, whether because of their religious affiliation or the religious instruction they provide," said Michael Bindas, a senior attorney with the Institute for Justice, in a statement.

An end to Blaine Amendments?

This will have huge implications around America, as most of the states' Blaine Amendments, which prevent state dollars from going toward religious schools, will be effectively void.

Thirty-seven states have had these antiquated measures on the books, vestiges of 19th century anti-Catholic bigotry.

"This ruling is a huge win for reli-



The Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled against Maine's student aid policy. MATTHEW SOBOCINSKI/USA TODAY NETWORK

"This ruling is a huge win for religious freedom and parental rights in education. The Carson decision deals another major blow to the discriminatory Blaine Amendments found in dozens of state constitutions."

Corey DeAngelis
National director of research at the American Federation for Children and an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute

gious freedom and parental rights in education," Corey DeAngelis, national director of research at the American Federation for Children and an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute, told me. "The Carson decision deals another major blow to the discriminatory Blaine Amendments found in dozens of state constitutions."

DeAngelis, noting that school choice support is already at an all-time high, said the ruling should further "supercharge" momentum for more educational choices in the states and embolden state lawmakers to advocate for these options.

Unfortunately, a few states have Blaine Amendments that won't be affected by the Carson decision. That's the case in Michigan, which is notorious in the school choice community for the language in its constitution. Rather than calling out religious schools, Michigan law blocks *all* aid to *all* nonpublic schools. This has made passing any form of private school assistance impossible, even as its Midwest neighbors have done so.

Fund students, not systems

Some groups are still trying.

The Michigan-based Mackinac Center Legal Foundation is seeking to overturn the state's anti-choice amendment and filed a federal lawsuit last year. Even though the amendment's language is "neutral," it was enacted with "anti-religious hostility," according to Patrick Wright, director of the legal foundation. Most of the state's private schools are faith-based.

Separately, citizen ballot initiative Let MI Kids Learn is underway and could pave the way for a tax-credit scholarship program aimed at helping low-income students or students with special needs attend private schools and access other educational benefits. This effort is backed by former U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who is from Michigan, and former Vice President Mike Pence.

In the meantime, Michigan families won't benefit from the high court's ruling. And it's possible that in the wake of this opinion, some states could consider revising their Blaine Amendments to more closely mirror Michigan's.

That may not fly with parents. The pandemic taught us that a one-size-fits-all model of education failed too many families, and the Supreme Court is helping break down barriers.

States should take advantage of these new opportunities.

DeAngelis said, "Now is the time for states to go all-in on funding students instead of systems."

Ingrid Jacques is a columnist at USA TODAY. You can contact the columnist at ijacques@usatoday.com or on Twitter: @Ingrid_Jacques

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

CHINA WATCH

CHINA DAILY 中國日報



A green building at Shenzhen International Low-Carbon City in Shenzhen, Guangdong province, is among those in the city that uses sustainable energy sources. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

City at vanguard of low-carbon growth

Xiao Tianfa had lived for almost 40 years in the Xinqiao historical residential area, a group of walled houses of the Hakka people in Longgang district of Shenzhen. The 84-year-old was born, grew up and spent half of his life there.

Although he moved to a nearby place in the late 1970s, he still comes to visit his old house from time to time.

Referring to the Hakka village where his previous home is located, he said: "I have witnessed its remarkable change from a rundown area to a modern example of low-carbon development.

"In the past, houses in the village were filled with waste. Roof tiles could fall off anytime. The environment was quite poor at the time."

But now, it has become the first "near-zero carbon" community in Shenzhen and a pilot demonstration area for the city's low-carbon development, featuring more than 140 types of "green" technology.

The village, which covers 36,000 square meters (387,500 square feet) and has about 400 residents, produces 680 metric tons of carbon a year, of which 600 tons are offset by using green technology, said Zhang Yalong, executive dean of the Shenzhen Institute of Sustainable Development.

Reducing the remaining 80 tons of carbon is left to local residents in an initiative to promote green living, he said. "They each have a personal carbon account and are encouraged to cut their carbon emissions by changing living habits, modes of transport and other things."

The transformation of Xinqiao reflects how Shenzhen is pressing ahead with the green transition to contribute to helping fulfill China's national goal of peaking carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2060.



Students view an environmental protection exhibition in Shenzhen on May 19. CHENWEN / CHINA NEWS SERVICE

According to government figures, Shenzhen's carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP dropped by about 70% in 2020 compared with the level in 2005.

As part of its green development efforts, the city has established a new ecological accounting system that focuses on contributions made by resources, the environment and ecology to the local economy.

The gross ecosystem product, or GEP, system was launched in March last year and is the first complete system of its kind in the country.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, GEP is "the total value of final ecosystem goods and services supplied to human well-being in a region annually, and can be measured in terms of biophysical value and monetary value". Shenzhen generated 130.4 billion yuan (\$19.5 billion) in GEP in 2020, the city says.

Carbon trading has also played a significant role in Shenzhen's green drive. The city began its carbon trading operation, the first in the country, at the China Emissions Exchange in June 2013.

The city's carbon trading market accounted for 13% of the country's total in terms of both transaction volume and value by the end of 2020.

Shenzhen International Low-Carbon City, the only key development zone in Shenzhen that features green development, is directly across the small river that runs past the Xinqiao historical residential area.

Since the project was launched in 2012, an effort has been made to develop the 53-square-kilometer (13,100 acres) zone into a hub for the low-carbon industry and it has been a great progress.

A number of architecture projects in the zone have been built using the highest level of green building standards.

— ZHOU MO

'Gift of travel' that changed lives forever

A visit to a U.S. school by President Xi in 2015 has left an indelible mark on its students

The visit was nearly seven years ago, but it is etched so clearly on Nathan Bowling's mind that it is as though it happened yesterday.

On Sept. 23, 2015, Bowling was teaching a sociology class at Lincoln High School in Tacoma, Washington state, but this was to be no routine lesson. Standing in the classroom before him and his students was a very special guest: Chinese President Xi Jinping.

This visit was one of many Xi has made at home and abroad since he became China's president almost 10 years ago.

The school visit was his last public stop during a visit to Washington state. He would meet members of the Lincoln High School football team and receive a custom No. 1 Lincoln Abes' game jersey with his name on it.

"At one point we had a conversation about whether they could shake his hand or not," Bowling said of his students. "And I was like, 'Of course not. No way.' And then, when he stuck his hand out to shake hands with the kids in the row, the first kid squealed, like it was the Beatles. That was really cool to me. That means they understood the gravity of the moment."

Among the many things Bowling clearly recalls about the visit is what Xi said about China.

Bowling recalled Xi as saying something to the effect of when you go to Xi'an, you see the China of more than 1,000 years in the past; when you go to Beijing you see 500 years in the past; and when you go to Shanghai you see 100 years in the past.

"And that passage really stuck with me. That's kind of a demonstration of the depth of Chinese history."

Bowling and his wife have visited China many times since 2014. They have worked with high school students and middle school students in Chengdu, Sichuan province. The other cities they have

toured include Beijing, Macao, Hong Kong and Shanghai.

He said his trips to China have enabled him to deepen his knowledge far beyond what people can get from a book. On each trip, he said, he has been "blown away" by the country, its people and their generosity.

After exchanging gifts and speaking with students that day in Tacoma, Xi made a speech in the school auditorium.

Because of her involvement with the Lincoln Lady Abes basketball team, Shauntel Berry was able to witness the speech. What she remembered most clearly was the delay between Xi saying in Chinese that 100 students were to be invited to travel to China, and then the translation from the interpreter. Everyone was cheering, probably hoping to be one of those selected, Berry said.

In 2016 she visited China as one of the 100 students selected to travel. "Traveling to China made me realize we're all living different lives, and there's more than one way to live. I took notice of the values and the normality of respect of the Chinese people, a shock compared to here in the States."

Berry said she plans to study in China and would like to learn about the origins of traditional Chinese medicine.

Lincoln High School's principal, Patrick Erwin, said: "The president's visit (in 2015) opened my students' eyes to the rest of the world, specifically China. They have never met or been in the presence of a leader of his magnitude, so that made it special, but the gift of travel that he gave to our students will never be forgotten."

"The visit dazzled them, and the ensuing trip changed their lives forever. I have students that planned on studying in China before the COVID-19 pandemic and still hope to do so once things return to normal."

— LINDA DENG

Forced landings forged bonds of amity

A documentary that recently premiered in New York details a U.S. airstrike on Tokyo in 1942, the subsequent risky rescue of the U.S. pilots by Chinese civilians, and their relatives' continuing friendship.

Unsettled History: America, China and the Doolittle Tokyo Raid was directed by Bill Einreinhofer, a three-time Emmy Award winning nonfiction producer/director and writer.

It sheds light on a largely unheralded U.S. military operation and the humanity, heroism and people-to-people exchanges between China and the United States that surmounted differences in culture, ideology and nationality.

"History is a very good mirror," said Huang Ping, the Chinese consul general in New York, who joined the audience for the premiere last month. "I think we should draw (on) a few

experiences and lessons from history by telling the story of the Flying Tigers and the Doolittle Raid."

In 1942, in retaliation for Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on Dec. 7, 1941, during World War II, then U.S. president Franklin Roosevelt ordered a response.

On April 18 that year 16 B-25 Mitchell bombers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel James Doolittle were launched from the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Hornet and headed west across the Pacific Ocean toward Japan. Military and industrial targets in Tokyo and other places were targeted.

The bombers continued west, aiming to land somewhere in China. However, the aircraft ran low on fuel, and the pilots were unfamiliar with the local landscape at night, so the crews had to make forced landings. Some

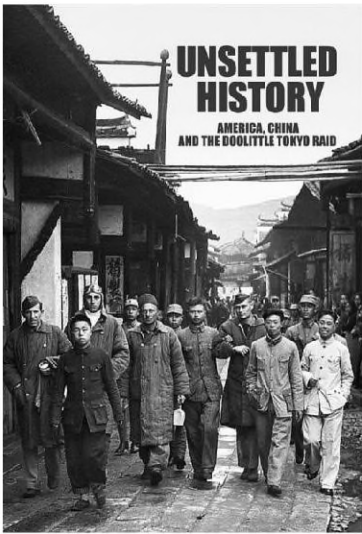
landed in Zhejiang province, some in Anhui province, and the others in Jiangsu province.

According to the historical archive of the Children of the Doolittle Raiders Association, or CDR, 63 U.S. pilots from 15 bombers were stranded in a foreign land in which they had no knowledge of its culture and language, let alone its people.

After the abrupt landings, the U.S. crews were spotted by Chinese farmers and villagers and taken to households nearby. Unable to communicate in words, they managed to get messages across using gestures, facial expressions and signs.

Edward J. Saylor, who was among the rescued pilots, said: "The Chinese did all that they could to help us... there was no transportation, no railroads or anything."

Melinda Liu, daughter of



The documentary *Unsettled History: America, China and the Doolittle Tokyo Raid*. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Tung-Seung Liu, who helped the Doolittle crew get in contact with the Chinese government, said: "No matter how different the background, the culture, the ethnic identity, the nationality and the government, there are still ways for human beings to relate and help each other to

survive, and that's the legacy."

Luo Shipping, a retired historian in Beijing, said: "We have to protect our friends' safety at any cost. At that time, every ordinary Chinese thought so, not just the government officials."

Over the years Luo has led a group of volunteers from Shangrao, Jiangxi province, to collect survival stories of the Doolittle raiders.

However, the bravery and humanity of the Chinese people came at a hefty price; the vengeful Japanese Army combed possible hideouts along the Zhejiang-Jiangxi borders and killed many Chinese civilians.

"We didn't forget," Einreinhofer said. "To really understand our current lives and what the future would be, we need to recall the past."

In 2006 descendants of the pilots established the CDR in an effort to spread stories of both the 1942 airstrike on Tokyo and the China-U.S. friendship.

— CHANG JUN

Flavors help NA drinks gain favor

Spike in options drives rising demand, sales

Morgan Hines
USA TODAY

It's June. Your opportunity to start the "Dry January" challenge has long since passed, but the option to sip on booze-free libations has become a permanent one. And it's becoming more popular with the masses, regardless of sobriety.

Plenty of vendors have nonalcoholic offerings to take the place of that margarita or old fashioned that you might typically sip at a social gathering – and they are tasty. Some echo the flavor of the cocktails many of us are already familiar with.

Hilary Sheinbaum, author of "The Dry Challenge: How to Lose the Booze for Dry January, Sober October, and Any Other Alcohol-Free Month," published in 2020, told USA TODAY she drinks NA cocktails year-round.

"Even if I'm not doing a dry month, these are so helpful because you can enjoy a delicious drink without a buzz," she said. "NA beverages also make get-togethers, restaurant menus, parties and life events more inclusive for drinkers and nondrinkers alike."

Whether you want to take time off from drinking, stop drinking completely or simply drink less, nonalcoholic cans are a great option to crack open at a social gathering or while unwinding at home.

Offerings of NA beverages and low alcohol beverages are growing, Greg Cohen, spokesperson for IWSR, which provides drinks market analysis, told USA TODAY.

"Total volume of no- and low-alcohol products in the US grew by about +27% in 2021," Cohen said in a text message. "The category is forecasted to grow by about +23% compound annual growth rate volume 2022-2026."

Options are easier to find. Liz Paquette, head of consumer insight for Drizly, an online ordering and delivery company that focuses on alcohol retailers, told USA TODAY that over 90% of the company's retail partners carry at least one nonalcoholic beverage option.

Sales are rising, too. "Though the nonalcoholic category still accounts for a relatively small portion of overall share on Drizly, the growth in this category is profound when comparing sales over the past few years," said Paquette.

Nonalcoholic spirit sales were up 600% year over year 2020 to 2021, NA wine was up 300% and NA beer up 200%.

In 2021, Drizly saw a 166% increase in the number of NA products available on the platform compared to 2019.

Borja Manso Salinas, vice president of marketing a Heineken which sells Heineken 0.0, an alcohol free beer,

See NA BEVERAGES, Page 2B

USA TODAY SNAPSHOTS®

Top movers

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM

Biggest large-cap stock price increases (by percentage) for week ending June 24.	
Roblox Corp.....	35.5%
BeiGene Ltd.....	34.7%
Zendesk Inc.....	32.8%
Unity Software Inc.....	31.9%
Snowflake Inc.....	26.9%
Datadog Inc.....	25.5%
Speng Inc ADR.....	25.3%
Grab Holdings Ltd A.....	24.0%
DLocal Limited Cl A.....	23.7%
Palantir Technol.....	23.7%

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cars line up at a Shell gas station June 17 in Miami. President Joe Biden on June 22 called on Congress to suspend the federal gasoline and diesel taxes for three months. MARTA LAVANDIER/AP

Gas tax holiday relief likely mild, temporary

Without boosting supply, experts worry of worsening pain at pump

Medora Lee
USA TODAY

It's unlikely Americans will feel any significant or lasting relief from President Joe Biden's proposal Wednesday for a three-month federal gas tax holiday.

The average national gas price fell this week for the first time in nine weeks, slipping below the key \$5 per gallon for regular unleaded, according to GasBuddy. The decline was in line with a tumble in oil prices to about \$110 per barrel, from \$122, on fears the global economy is slowing and may fall into recession, AAA said.

But an easing in gas prices last week doesn't mean the coast is clear. The world still has lower-than-usual stockpiles of oil and gas and stretched refining capacity to transform oil into consumer products, and consumption remains strong. AAA predicts car travel will set a record with 42 million people hitting the road this July 4 weekend despite historically high gas prices.

The gas tax holiday, which would suspend the 18.4-cent federal tax on each gallon of gas and 2.4 cents on each gallon of diesel fuel for gas producers (not consumers), would require congressional approval. Biden would need 60 votes – at least 10 from Republicans – in the evenly divided Senate to overcome any filibuster.

If passed, experts see such a move as only providing mild temporary relief, if any, for consumers. The Penn Wharton Budget Model from the University of Pennsylvania estimated that a 10-month federal gas tax holiday would lower average per-capita gas spending by \$16 to \$47, depending on demand.

Key words: depending on demand. "While a gas tax holiday may provide temporary relief from record-setting prices for some consumers, it may also drive demand even higher, thereby stoking inflation," said John Leer, chief economist at research firm Morning Consult.

Biden also is encouraging states to suspend their gas taxes, but that's also unlikely to provide relief for consumers for more than a day or so.

On average, one-third of an increase – or decrease – in state gasoline tax rates is passed through to consumers in the retail price on the day the change takes effect, with no significant impact after that time, according to a June 2020 study by the ARTBA Transportation Investment Advocacy Center.

With summer driving not looking to let up any time soon, any lasting relief for consumers at the pump will require rebuilding dwindling supplies. U.S. gasoline inventories ended March 2.6% below the previous five-year average, according to the Energy Information Administration.

"To calm inflation, the U.S. needs additional supply relative to demand, and a gas tax holiday won't do that," Leer said.

Unfortunately, there's no quick fix for supply issues, experts say.

"Unless the U.S. government is able to find a refinery it can help restart or ramp up production in the next few months, the Biden administration will be left with few good options," Natasha Kaneva, JPMorgan's head of global commodities research, wrote in a report.

Biden plans to visit Saudi Arabia next month, though, and some expect him to try to persuade the Saudis to pump more oil, which historically lowers crude prices.

In the end, consumers will likely just have to continue to stomach higher pump prices and let the laws



Experts see no quick fix for gas supply issues in the U.S. GETTY IMAGES

of supply and demand take over. Cutting taxes on gasoline and diesel, offering untargeted energy subsidies, or introducing price gouging legislation only fuels demand and puts more pressure on "supply chains that are already creaking," Kaneva said.

In the U.S., eight states accounting for close to 9% of global gasoline demand have already either introduced tax breaks on gasoline or are considering suspending state taxes on gas, but gas prices are still near record highs, she noted.

"With demand stimulated and supply constrained, fuel prices will continue rising until demand is destroyed to a level where it can meet supply," she said.

There are two ways demand destruction can occur: directly through rationing and indirectly through high prices. Kaneva doesn't believe politicians will ration fuel, so the only avenue left is to allow fuel prices to keep rising to automatically depress demand. She doesn't see balance returning to the gas market until the national average costs at least \$6 per gallon.

beko

Introducing CornerIntense®. The biggest revolution in dishwashing in nearly 100 years.

In stock now!

Up to \$100 Rebate*

*\$100 rebate on 38 and 39 Series. \$50 rebate on 36 Series.

© 2022 Beko U.S., Inc. 220EUS010-04

Discover more

Make your idle gear, spaces pay off

Apps facilitate rental of all kinds of unused items

Jennifer Jolly
Special to USA TODAY

Worried about money and finances? With talk of a possible recession, stock market worries and concerns around rising inflation, it's no wonder people are feeling a little pinched right about now. Maybe you're even thinking of picking up a side hustle – or two – to help make ends meet.

Before you dash out the door to deliver food or shuttle people around in your car, consider the latest peer-to-peer rental craze. Think the “Airbnb of ...” just about anything.

There are now apps and sites to rent out all kinds of stuff from lawnmowers and camping gear – to boats, gardens, swimming pools and even chicken coops! The latest apps make it easy to rent out stuff you're not using anyway. You might be shocked at how much money you can make – without spending too much time or effort.

Get cash out of your camper

According to industry statistics, the average RV owner only uses their rig three or four weeks out of the year. If you own a motorhome, camper van, or travel trailer, renting it out when you're not using it can be pretty darn lucrative. According to peer-to-peer RV rental site Outdoorsy, several RV owners on its platform make around \$50,000 a year – and even more.

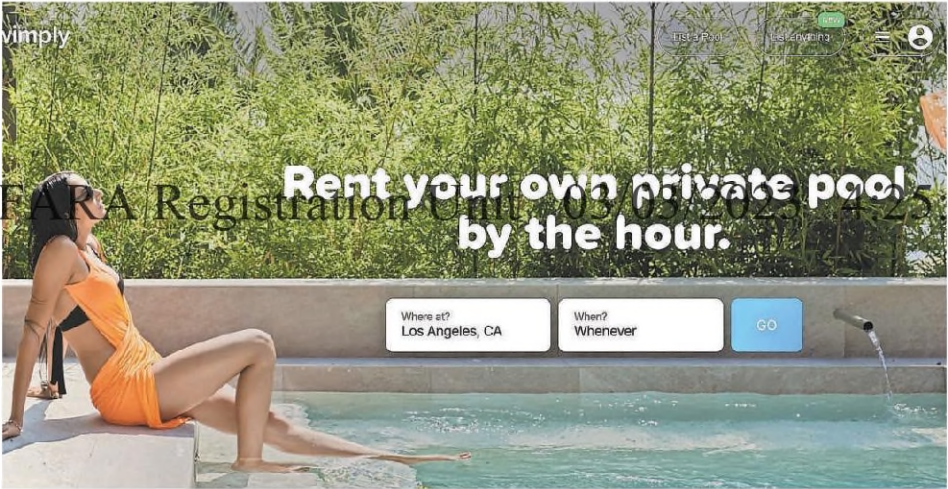
This time last year, my family loaded up into a Sprinter van towing a little tear-drop travel trailer and took off across the country for a pandemic-related #vanlife adventure. Now, it's mainly sitting around collecting dust, so we decided to give renting it out a try.

I've been on the other side and rented RVs from Outdoorsy a half dozen times since it first launched in 2015 and it's been a great experience. But this is the first time I'm the person doing the renting out. Honestly? It's been a whole lot easier than I expected.

The company guides you through the ropes online. Owners set the rates and rules and can choose things like smoking, pets or out-of-state trips. You can even specify how many miles you're willing to let the renter put on during their adventure with your gear.

Renters pay through the app and you get your cash within a day of your rental being returned.

Whether you own a modest travel trailer as we do or a massive RV, every rental is covered up to \$1 million in liability and renters get free 24/7 roadside assistance, should they need it. Outdoorsy and others like it typically deduct a 20% to 25% commission for finding renters and handling all that middleman stuff.



Pool owners who list on Swimply.com can set the days and hours their pool is available and control how many people can use it at a time. PROVIDED BY SWIMPLY.COM



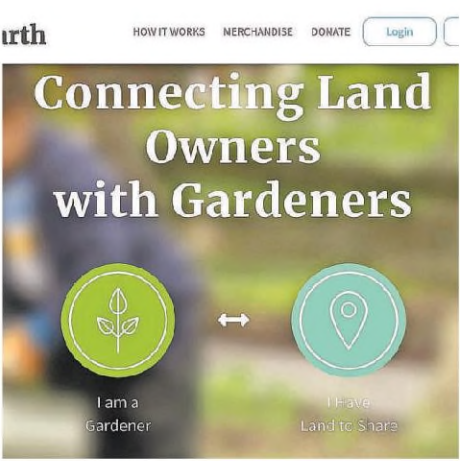
Reporter Jennifer Jolly's husband washes their Sprinter van and travel trailer for a renter on Outdoorsy. JENNIFER JOLLY/SPECIAL TO USA TODAY

Cars, trucks and even bikes!

What's great about sites like Outdoorsy or other peer-to-peer car rental sites like Turo is that the renters are verified by the company, so you know they're legit. Turo's another site I rent from quite a bit – it has completely replaced car rental companies for me – and I'm now even considering offering my old Audi for rent through it.

I recently rented a Ford Edge on a work trip to San Francisco. It could not have gone more smoothly. Users log in to the app, can see your auto listing by location and can book it with specific pickup and drop-off times. Turo covers your car for up to \$750,000 if anything goes wrong and the company says the average vehicle brings up over \$10,000 per year through rentals.

There's also a market for bike rentals. A site called Spinlister lets anyone decide on a rate and list it for daily, weekly or even monthly rentals. I just found out that my cousin-in-law, who lives in San Diego, lists two bikes he bought for his sons on the app and charges around \$40/day or \$200/week. (The sons are grown and flown and the bikes were collecting dust in his garage.) Of that, Spinlister takes 17.5% and handles all the fi-



Shared Earth is a cooperative gardening community that matches green thumbs with landowners. PROVIDED BY SHAREDEARTH.COM

nancial transactions and verifies both the lister and renter via cellphone and credit card. For the renter, optional damage and theft insurance is available.

Share your garden

OK, renting expensive items like RVs brings in the cash, but what if all you have is, well, empty space? If that empty space has grass and dirt beneath it, you can rent that out too.

Shared Earth is a cooperative gardening community that matches green thumbs with landowners who don't have the time or skills to turn their dirt into a lush garden. The landowner provides the space, water and perhaps some tools and the gardener does all the work. The produce is then split between the landowner and gardener – generally 50/50 – but it's all negotiable.

This could be a great way to meet new people in your community while also getting some fresh air and exercise: two things many of us don't get enough of.

Rent out your kitchen for cooking classes

Homeowners who have envy-worthy

pads but don't necessarily want to rent out their entire home or rooms on Airbnb or others, might be more comfortable showcasing their kitchens instead. Cozymeal lets you do just that. Cozymeal partners conduct cooking classes and provide private dining experiences – but lack the actual space to do it all in. If you have a world-class kitchen and dining area in your home (lucky you!) you can sign up to rent your venue for use by professional chefs and their clientele.

Make your swimming pool earn money

Have you seen how expensive chlorine is these days? Help defray the cost by renting out your swimming pool. You can rent it by the hour to guests who just want to cool off on a hot summer day or for larger parties and events. You set the days and hours that your pool is available and you can also control how many people can use it at a time.

The best part? You don't even have to be home when Swimply members use your pool. They handle all the logistics and you just sit back, relax and wait for the cash to come in. Some pools rent for upward of \$100 per hour! If your pool is in good shape, it's just waiting to make you some serious money. Swimply also recently expanded to more spaces, including sports courts, large backyards, home gyms and music studios, to allow “more people with awesome spaces to share them with others.”

Let your yard go to the dogs

Some dog owners live in apartments or condos or have dogs that don't do well at dog parks but still need off-leash time. Others have little escape artists who need to be in a fenced area. That's where Sniffspot comes in. You rent out your yard by the hour and they get the space all to themselves. The site says owners make up to \$1,500 a month renting out their yards.

Check out the fine print first

If you've got stuff or space, that you're not using, why not put it to work and start earning some extra cash? With just a little bit of effort, you can stress less about your finances and have a little fun in the process. Who knows, maybe you'll even become an entrepreneur!

But before you sign up with any of these services, be sure to research their liability policies and what insurance they provide on your behalf. For instance, Swimply offers \$1 million of liability insurance and \$10,000 of property damage protection, but you'll want to check with your insurance too. After all, if something happens, you don't want to find out after the fact that you forfeited coverage by renting out your property without them knowing about it.

NA beverages

Continued from Page 1B

said the brand has noticed consumers are increasingly focused on wellness.

“Over the last few years, we've seen a cultural shift in how people approach alcohol,” Manso Salinas told USA TODAY in an emailed statement in January. “Short-term challenges like Dry January and Sober October indicate that consumers are being more intentional about when they drink alcohol and when they want to abstain from drinking.”

Ginger Hultin, MS RDN CSo and owner of Champagne Nutrition, told USA TODAY in January that not drinking is becoming trendier – to a degree.

“There's definitely a shift in ‘sober-curious’ culture,” Hultin said. “Nonalcoholic beer, nonalcoholic wine or even spirits and other types of nonalcoholic drinks like shrubs or kombucha are gaining traction. There's been more awareness about the potential negative effects of alcohol on health – physically and emotionally.”

Younger generations, she added, are developing a different relationship to alcohol than their elder counterparts.

But it's not just to fit a healthier lifestyle. It also has to do with availability of nonalcoholic drinks, according to Manso Salinas.

“The category isn't growing because consumers are suddenly deciding to give up alcohol, rather it's growing because consumers who drink alcohol are discovering that great-tasting NA options like Heineken 0.0 can fit into their

lifestyle, too,” Manso Salinas said.

What options are out there?

Whether you're a beer drinker, cocktail connoisseur or wine lover there's really an NA alternative for everyone.

There are plenty of nonalcoholic beers on the market from brands including Partake, Clausthaler, Crux Fermentation Project and Athletic Brewing and big brands are jumping on the 0% alcohol beer train, too. Heineken, for example, debuted its 0.0 beer in 2019. And Guinness has its own 0.0 option.

Like its hoppy counterpart, the wine category also has plenty of brands with offerings such as Null, Surely, Naughty and Proteau.

For those interested in a ready to drink NA cocktail or wine there's Spirity, Ghia, Lyre's and Gruvi, among others.

There are NA spirits for purchase, too – with some brands creating drinks that echo alcoholic classics like tequila.

For instance, CleanCo., which encourages drinking “like there's a tomorrow,” offers Clean R (a spiced rum alternative), Clean G (a gin alternative), Clean T (a tequila alternative) and Clean V (an apple vodka alternative) in aesthetically pleasing packaging that blends in on any bar cart.

Another brand called Ish, “a mindful drinking company,” also offers NA spirits such as “RumISH” and “GinISH,” along with NA wines and NA canned cocktails.

Others brands have created different kinds of drinks that are NA.

Three Spirit Drinks, for example, offers bottled options, each unique to fit a particular vibe, co-founder Tatiana



Three Spirit was created to make a “third” option for social occasions beyond “drinking” and “not drinking,” a co-founder said. MORGAN HINES/USA TODAY

Mercer told USA TODAY.

Mercer said that Three Spirit was created to make a “third” option for social occasions beyond “drinking” and “not drinking.” “Our mission is to show people that alcohol-free doesn't mean pleasure-free, and we want to power those social occasions with plants.”

Brands such as CleanCo, Three Spirit, Free Spirits, Lyre's, Seedlip, Kin, Ghia,

Gnista and Gruvi, among others, sell their product online, but many NA options can be purchased in some shops.

There are even some NA package stores and bar-type organizations such as Boisson, with five locations in New York, and Sans Bar St. Louis which hosts “shaken not slurred” pop-up events.

Alcohol-friendly restaurants, bars

It's not just places dedicated to NA beverages that are picking up on the trend. Bars and restaurants that serve alcoholic drinks are starting to take note.

CleanCo's gin, for example, is available at popular high-end restaurant Nobu in London for a clean gin and tonic cocktail.

At New York City's popular West Village bar the Spaniard, two offerings are listed under the “Booze Free Cocktails” section. At \$12 a pop, they are \$4-6 less than most of the other drinks on the bar's menu.

People who drink

It's not just nondrinkers who are opting to purchase NA beverages. Three Spirit's Mercer said 80% of the brand's customers are drinkers.

“I believe that people are still drinking alcohol but they're just drinking less – and are more selective of what they're drinking,” she said. “There's more intentionality to avoid killer hangovers and seek better, more interesting products that spark conversation and connection.”

Contributing: Mike Snider

Airlines: Too few pilots for schedule

Shortage is major factor in cancellations, they say

Zach Wichter
USA TODAY

It's been a tough summer for air passengers in the U.S.

Many days have seen thousands of flight delays and cancellations, and airlines are taking longer to get their operations back on schedule when things go wrong.

A shortage of pilots, while not the only reason, is a major factor. Airlines reduced staffing when demand for flights plunged early in the pandemic, and now they're struggling to bounce back as people start traveling at pre-pandemic frequencies again.

Why is there a pilot shortage?

How airlines responded to the pandemic drop in travel demand is the key driver of the current staffing problems.

"In April of 2020, aviation was down 97%. This isn't a black swan, this is a flock of black swans that arrived for the aviation industry," said Courtney Miller, founder of Visual Approach Analytics, an aviation data analysis firm. "As traffic fell off a cliff, the airlines did what they could to react to people not flying. ... There were a lot of decisions taken – furloughs, layoffs, retirements – that were incentivized."

Those steps helped airlines stay afloat financially during the worst of the pandemic slowdown but meant they were ill-prepared in many cases when travelers decided to pack their bags and return to the skies.

"Despite prices going up, it appears people do not want to give up getting away for a week or two," said Alex Cruz, former CEO of British Airways and current board member at Fetcherr, an AI firm focusing on airline pricing and revenue management. "The ramp-up in demand has been quicker overall than most airlines anticipated."

Laura Einsetler, a commercial pilot, estimates that as much as 30% of her company's overall workforce left during the pandemic. At least 10% of her airline's senior pilots retired, she said. Pilots across the industry say they're being stretched thin as airlines try to maximize summer schedules.

"You don't build a schedule for clear skies, you build it for 'How does it recover when things go wrong?' " said Dennis



With staffing tight, including a shortage of pilots, airlines have struggled this summer to recover from operational disruptions. Many days have seen thousands of flight delays and cancellations. CLEMENT SABOURIN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Tajer, a spokesperson for the Allied Pilots Association and a pilot for American Airlines. "They are placing a ladle in our exhausted hands to empty the ocean of their mistakes."

With staffing tight, airlines have struggled this summer to recover from operational disruptions. While a severe storm in years past may have thrown a wrench in flight schedules for a few days, for example, major weather events are having longer-lasting effects as airlines with smaller staffs take longer to get the employees on their roster back into position after disruptions.

What it means for travelers

For those planning to fly this summer, and even later into the year, things may remain unpredictable for a while.

Airlines have announced schedule reductions, cutting as much as 10% of their flights and ending service to some cities as they scramble to match their timetables to their staffing levels.

"The most important thing for our customers to understand is we, the Delta pilots, understand their frustration, and we're frustrated too," Evan Baach, a Delta Air Lines pilot and spokesperson for the Air Line Pilots Association told USA TODAY.

He was interviewed during a protest in New York this month when about 50 pilots, most from Delta, picketed to raise awareness about work conditions.

"We are working a record amount of overtime. In fact, by this fall we will have worked twice as much overtime as we have in all of 2018 and 2019 combined,"

Baach said. "It's within the company's control to adjust schedules and better match flying with the number of pilots that they have on staff."

Delta had announced a 3% reduction in its schedule beginning in July, and the airline and its pilots are negotiating a new contract.

For its part, United Airlines pilots are poised to ratify a new contract with the airline, which will include pay increases totaling nearly 15%

In the meantime, experts say, there are things travelers can do to try to make their travel this summer go a little more smoothly.

"Book early-morning flights. You want to schedule your flights at least a day or two ahead of time before any specific event that you need to be at, and just keep an eye on the weather. Maybe get travel insurance that will protect you from cancellations," Einsetler said. She added it's a good idea to have alternatives in mind if something goes wrong, and above all, to be flexible.

Will things be better in time for the holidays?

The fall and winter holiday travel seasons are expected to go a little smoother than this summer, experts say, but airlines probably are still going to be working through some problems.

"Fall will hit and travel will subside, but airlines will continue recruiting at a fever pitch," said Miller, of Visual Approach Analytics.

Unfortunately for travelers, most experts also believe airfares will remain

high well into the winter.

How this gets fixed

It can take years to train new pilots from scratch, so it may be a while before airlines are fully staffed.

The pilots union insists that the U.S. does not have a pilot shortage and that companies are creating the problems themselves by not offering competitive pay rates and work-life balance to entice qualified pilots into the workforce.

Regardless, it will take time to get the pilot roster and airline schedules to meet the demand.

"The recruitment process, even though it's started, is not able to keep up at the largest airlines," Miller said, adding that airlines are racing to hire more pilots before service reliability and scheduling problems cause demand to fall off. He said he expects conditions to be more normal again by summer 2023.

Other proposals to address the pilot shortage include raising the mandatory retirement age to 67 from 65, and reducing the minimum number of flight hours commercial pilots are required to log to qualify in the U.S. The Federal Aviation Administration has among the most stringent requirement for pilots globally, with 1,500 hours of flight time.

How technology can help

Pilot staffing is the major bottleneck in the aviation industry this summer, especially in the U.S., but experts say it's not the only pinch point.

For years, airlines have been rolling out tech options to help make things smoother for passengers. These include things like automated bag drop counters that Spirit Airlines has at some of its largest airports and an app that American Airlines recently announced will be accepted by Transportation Security Administration agents in lieu of identification and a boarding pass.

Many airlines also allow customers opportunities to review their options or rebook their travel when something goes wrong through their own applications. But, Cruz said, the airlines still have a long way to go when it comes to taking full advantage of technology.

"The problem is during COVID, all of us have downloaded more apps," Cruz said. "They're teaching us what to expect from an online experience," and the airline industry increasingly isn't providing what consumers are coming to expect.

Billions estimated in unused airline credits

Check terms, know how to make most of rewards

Zach Wichter
USA TODAY

In the spring of 2020, Aaron Hurd figured he had a summer of cheap travel in store.

"I was seeing tickets from Minneapolis to the coasts at \$80 round trip," the writer and strategy consultant from Minneapolis told USA TODAY. "I thought: we're all going to stay home, we're going to solve this COVID thing. It'll take a few months and by June of 2020, we'll all be traveling again. I'm going to book tickets for every weekend from June 2020 through the rest of the year."

Obviously, things didn't quite pan out that way.

"COVID lasted much longer than we expected," Hurd said, and he was left with a digital wallet loaded with travel credits from canceled trips.

Since the onset of the pandemic, airlines have issued a tremendous number of credits, according to Henry Harteveltd, president of Atmosphere Research, a travel industry strategic research firm. He estimates that the largest airlines in the U.S. collectively have unused travel credits worth "several billion" dollars on their books.

Travelers who intended to go somewhere early in the pandemic may still have funds ready to use on airfare this summer.

But (as with many things in air travel) those credits come with terms and conditions that can be confusing.

Airlines were issuing travel credits well before the COVID-19 outbreak, but they became much more common in the past two years as carriers tweaked their cancellation and rebooking policies to be more consumer-friendly – and to encourage prospective travelers to book through a changing en-

vironment.

A travel credit allows a flyer to retain the value of their ticket and use it toward a future booking if they have to cancel or reschedule the original trip. Typically the value of the flight credit will include any taxes and government-imposed fees, but will not include airline-related fees like those for bags or assigned seats. Those are generally handled separately, either through a cash refund or individual credit.

"Even I have received flight credits, especially at the beginning of the pandemic. They were given way more easily than I have ever seen," said Danny Rivers Mitchell, founder of Black Girls Travel Too, a global boutique tour operator that curates immersive and cultural experiences for Black women. "Now the challenge with those flight credits is they have an expiration date."

Each carrier has its own policies for how credits can be used and how long they will remain valid. It's important to check those terms when the credit is issued.

For example, Hurd said he had an easier time combining and applying his credits on Delta Air Lines than he did on Southwest, and Rivers Mitchell said she had trouble using credits issued from international flights on new domestic itineraries with American.

Andrea Koos, a spokesperson for American Airlines, acknowledged that international tickets often have more complicated tax and tariff structures, which can make them harder to use for domestic itineraries.

But, she said, the airline's agents can generally help get them applied to new bookings.

Here's what the four biggest U.S. carriers say are their policies around travel credits.

• American Airlines

American switched from issuing flight credits to trip credits in August



Credits can help insulate travelers from high summer fares, but can be a little confusing for some to use. GETTY IMAGES

2020, and the two have slightly different terms of use. Broadly, trip credits are more flexible and can be combined more easily. They must be spent within a year of when they were issued, but travel can occur at any time.

American no longer charges change fees on domestic or short-haul international flights, and some long-haul international flights are covered as well. If a passenger changes an itinerary, the value of their original ticket will be issued as a trip credit, so long as they didn't purchase a basic economy fare. Passengers can also get trip credits if the airline cancels the flight, though the DOT requires airlines to provide a cash refund in that case if the traveler prefers. Credits for bag and seat fees are issued separately.

Flight credits are essentially unused or canceled tickets, and the travel they are spent on must begin by one year from the date of issue.

• Delta

All credits expiring in 2022 will be extended for booking through the end of 2023 (including for flights that operate in 2024). New tickets purchased this year will also be eligible to become cred-

its that will be valid for bookings through 2023 and travel into 2024. Delta also got rid of change fees during the pandemic for all tickets that originate in North America, aside from basic economy.

• Southwest

Passengers with nonrefundable tickets must apply credits to travel that is completed within a year of the date of purchase. Those with refundable tickets can receive the full value of their purchase back in cash including taxes and fees. Credits on "Wanna Get Away Plus" fares are transferable to other Rapid Rewards members.

• United

Credits issued on or before Dec. 31 must be used for flights operated by Dec. 31, 2023. The airline's credits include the value of taxes. Fees associated with the original ticket, like the cost of baggage or an Economy Plus seat, are refunded to the passenger's form of payment after the original flight departs.

If you're having trouble using your credits, or they're about to expire, Harteveltd said, it's a good idea to reach out to the airline directly.

"You may have people sitting on a lot of unused travel credits, and the last thing airlines want to do is have consumers write into the Department of Transportation to say the airline stole my money. That's not a good look for airlines," he said. "Call the airline at an off-peak time so you're not waiting on hold for too long, and see if it's possible to get the expiration date extended."

Airlines are incentivized to help travelers use those credits because they can't count the revenue until they are spent. Airlines can claim the remaining value as revenue when credits expire, but doing so often comes across as poor customer service.

50★States

ALABAMA Mobile: A judge who belittled the governor over her age and gender and repeatedly cursed in court was removed from duty and could be ousted from office, records show. Mobile County Circuit Judge James T. Patterson, a Republican, has referred to his remarks as bad jokes.

ALASKA Anchorage: The state Supreme Court on Saturday upheld a lower court’s ruling that will keep Republican Tara Sweeney off the ballot for the August special election in Alaska’s U.S. House race.

ARIZONA Phoenix: The attorney for the state Senate’s ethics committee submitted a report Friday on his investigation of a Republican lawmaker’s online comments that appeared to blame the federal government for a supermarket massacre in Buffalo, New York. But it reached no conclusions on whether Sen. Wendy Rogers broke the chamber’s rules and said it will be up to the full Senate to decide if her comments merit discipline.

ARKANSAS Little Rock: The family of an unarmed teenager fatally shot by a sheriff’s deputy during a traffic stop filed a federal lawsuit Thursday against the deputy and the Lonoke County sheriff on the one-year anniversary of the 17-year-old’s killing.

CALIFORNIA Los Angeles: A police officer who died of neck injuries suffered during training had been beaten by fellow officers in an exercise meant to “simulate a mob,” according to a wrongful-death claim filed against the city by his mother.

COLORADO Denver: More than a dozen candidates campaigning to be top law enforcement officials in counties across the state are running on an ironic platform: not enforcing the law. Colorado’s “red flag” law that gives judges the ability to order the temporary seizure of guns from people considered a threat to themselves or others is at the top of list of the so-called constitutional sheriffs’ complaints. Some also reject the legitimacy of the 2020 presidential election and coronavirus precautions.

CONNECTICUT Mashantucket: While organized labor had high praise for Democratic Gov. Ned Lamont at the opening day of the Connecticut AFL-CIO political convention Thursday, workers urged him to do more to help fill numerous open positions in the government and across the state.

DELAWARE Wilmington: A homeowners association can’t block the construction of a school in its neighborhood, a judge ruled. The Alapocas Maintenance Corp. said the project would be “inharmonious” with the neighborhood and a detriment to the community’s green space.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Washington: The Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge has reopened after an abortion-rights activist scaled the bridge Friday and stayed there more than 24 hours, WUSA-TV reports.

FLORIDA Surfside: A year after a 12-story oceanfront condo building came down with a thunderous roar in the middle of the night, leaving a giant pile of rubble and claiming 98 lives, the names of each victim were read aloud during a ceremony Friday.

GEORGIA Macon: Two Confederate monuments are being moved to a cemetery after relocation plans were stalled for years by lawsuits.

HAWAII Honolulu: Gov. David Ige on Wednesday signed legislation raising the minimum wage to \$18 by 2028 and providing one-time tax refunds.

IDAHO Boise: The U.S. Forest Service has approved a new rule waiving fees for unauthorized grazing under some circumstances in a move blasted by the Hailey, Idaho-based Western Watersheds Project, which says the agency is codifying lax enforcement.

ILLINOIS Wauconda: The race to be the next governor is also a battle among billionaires, including two whose names were read on Tuesday’s primary ballot. Republican candidates Darren Bailey, who as a state lawmaker fought mask mandates, and former prosecutor Richard Irvin, the first Black mayor of Aurora, are backed by businessmen Ken Griffin and Richard Uihlein, respectively, in the fight to compete against wealthy Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

INDIANA West Lafayette: A Purdue University associate professor has created a new, “microrobot-enabled” treatment for strokes that has proved 86% effective in animal models.

HIGHLIGHT: TEXAS



Uvalde High School graduates line up Friday, one month after 19 children and two adults were gunned down at Robb Elementary School. GETTY IMAGES

Uvalde: Almost 300 high school seniors received their diplomas Friday in the shadow of the massacre of 19 elementary students and two teachers a month earlier. Before the 288 Uvalde High School seniors were arrayed 21 “Uvalde Strong” placards, representing those killed. “Love the people in your life while you have them because you don’t know what the future holds for anyone,” class valedictorian Abigail Kone said. After reading off the names of those who were slain, Kone said to prolonged applause that “tonight, I would like to include these children of Robb Elementary as honorary members of the Class of 2022 family.”

IOWA Dyersville: Two baseball-centric museums – the city-run If You Build It exhibit and the new Baseball Hall of Dreams – are now open in the same historic building.

KANSAS Wichita: Sedgwick County has agreed to pay \$22,000 to a former employee to settle his racial discrimination lawsuit, which included allegations he was called “boy” or the “colored guy” and subjected to slavery-era songs.

KENTUCKY Mayfield: The company that owns a candle plant where eight people were killed during a devastating December tornado outbreak will invest \$33.3 million over the next five years as part of an expansion at a local industrial park, with plans to employ over 500 people, Gov. Andy Beshear announced.

LOUISIANA New Orleans: A Jesuit university has renamed a residence hall after its first Black graduate, his late wife and their family. Norman C. Francis graduated from the law school at Loyola University of New Orleans in 1955 and was president of the nation’s only Black and Catholic university – Xavier University of New Orleans – from 1968 to 2015. Blanche Francis was a civic activist and community leader.

MAINE Augusta: Religious schools got what they wanted when the U.S. Supreme Court allowed them to participate in a state tuition program. But Maine’s attorney general said last week’s ruling will be for naught unless they’re willing to abide by the same anti-discrimination law as other private schools that participate in the program.

MARYLAND Ocean City: A raccoon that attacked two people in the town has been confirmed as testing positive for rabies, the Worcester County Health Department said.

MASSACHUSETTS Boston: State Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz said she is ending her campaign for governor, leaving state Attorney General Maura Healey the only viable Democrat still in the running.

MICHIGAN Pontiac: A judge has postponed a murder trial until January for a teenager accused of killing four fellow students and wounding others at Oxford High School.

MINNESOTA Minneapolis: The former police officer who fatally shot an unarmed woman who called 911 to report a possible sexual assault in the alley behind her home is set to be released from prison Monday, months after his murder conviction was overturned, and he was sentenced on a lesser charge.

MISSISSIPPI Jackson: Residents and businesses are set to get a citywide boil-water notice until further notice. Jackson has long-standing, expensive-to-fix problems with its aging water system, which the Environmental Protection Agency said in January violates the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

MISSOURI Jefferson City: Recently released data shows Black drivers are more likely to be pulled over in the state compared to white drivers, and the gap between how Missouri police treat Black and white drivers increased again last year.

MONTANA Helena: Gov. Greg Gianforte is making up to \$5 million in grant funding from the state’s bed tax fund available to businesses that have been affected by destructive flooding in southern Montana.

NEBRASKA Lincoln: The state Supreme Court on Friday denied the postconviction appeal of a death row inmate who said his defense attorney was so inept that his right to a fair trial was compromised.

NEVADA Reno: Counties across the state on Friday certified the last outstanding results of the June 14 primary election after critics questioned the tallies by recounting their own experiences at the polls and repeating conspiracy theories.

NEW HAMPSHIRE Concord: Republican Gov. Chris Sununu on Friday vetoed a bill that would have permitted pharmacists to dispense a parasite drug, ivermectin, to treat COVID-19 without a prescription.

NEW JERSEY Atlantic City: A week before it could walk out against numerous casinos, the city’s main casino workers union warned that a strike could cost four casinos a total of \$2.6 million a day in losses.

NEW MEXICO Albuquerque: Mayor Tim Keller said in a State of the City address Saturday that much of the progress made against crime was erased by the COVID-19 pandemic, but he believes the police department has made improvements.

NEW YORK Albany: Gov. Kathy Hochul said she is bringing legislators back Thursday to consider new gun safety legislation in response to the U.S. Supreme Court striking down key portions of the state’s licensing law last week.

NORTH CAROLINA Leland: A charter school violated girls’ constitutional rights by requiring them to wear skirts, a federal appeals court ruled. The K-8 students who challenged the policy argued they were receiving unequal treatment to male students, noting that the dress code limited their ability to participate in recess and made them uncomfortable in some situations such as emergency drills in which they had to crawl on the floor.

NORTH DAKOTA Bismarck: Gov. Doug Burgum is asking for a presidential disaster declaration and federal help dealing with \$57 million in infrastructure damage caused by severe spring storms and flooding.

OHIO Columbus: Cities across the state will be blocked from imposing rent control measures on landlords under a bill signed into law by Gov. Mike DeWine on Friday. In April, a group began circulating petitions to put an initiative on the ballot in Columbus that calls for rent control and licensing landlords.

OKLAHOMA Oklahoma City: Six residents have filed two federal lawsuits that challenge a state law intended to crack down on protesters and that allege their civil rights were violated when they were arrested in 2020. The anti-protest law is unconstitutionally broad and vague, according to one of the lawsuits filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in Oklahoma City.

OREGON Portland: Some business groups are suing over the state’s new job site rules mandating that employers take steps to protect workers from extreme heat and wildfire smoke. The groups allege that several provisions are too vague to be fairly enforced and that the state’s workplace safety agency overstepped its statutory authority by adopting them.

PENNSYLVANIA Harrisburg: With less than a week until the state’s budget deadline, Gov. Tom Wolf and leaders of the Republican-controlled Legislature are working through their remaining differences as they try to produce an agreement on a roughly \$42 billion budget plan that they say will marshal substantial new aid for public schools and environmental cleanups while cutting corporate taxes. Lawmakers are expected back in the Capitol on Monday.

RHODE ISLAND Providence: The more than 3,000 Rhode Islanders lost to COVID-19 were memorialized Saturday with a display of thousands of white flags on the State House lawn and a ceremony that opened a week during which the flags will remain in place, available for loved ones and friends to sign in remembrance of those who have died.

SOUTH CAROLINA Columbia: The General Assembly is returning to the capital city Tuesday to consider nearly \$53 million in local projects that Gov. Henry McMaster wants removed from the \$13.8 billion state budget.

SOUTH DAKOTA Pierre: State universities will begin to sell more alcohol at events next school year. The South Dakota Board of Regents approved an expanded alcohol sales policy Thursday to include general admission areas of performing arts and athletic events.

TENNESSEE Nashville: A Black Door-Dash driver no longer faces charges in a traffic stop for speeding in which a police officer shot him with a stun gun, an exchange the man caught on video as he declined to leave his car and requested a police supervisor.

UTAH Capitol Reef National Park: Search and rescue crews evacuated about 60 people via helicopter Thursday after flash floods blanketed the park, washing out roads and stranding visitors and park rangers.

VERMONT Burlington: The state on Sunday commemorated its first lesbian and gay pride parade, which was held in Burlington in 1983, and unveiled a roadside historic site marker.

VIRGINIA Roanoke: A federal appeals court has denied a request from a company building a natural gas pipeline to have a new panel of judges reconsider permits that have been struck down repeatedly for the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

WASHINGTON Seattle: The city has started work on a new, \$70 million pedestrian bridge that will connect Pike Place Market to the downtown waterfront. Dubbed “Overlook Walk,” the bridge will stretch above Alaskan Way, with one arm descending directly to a new waterfront promenade and another arm extending onto the roof of a new Seattle Aquarium pavilion. The promenade and the aquarium’s pavilion for sharks and stingrays are also under construction, The Seattle Times reports.

WEST VIRGINIA Charleston: A coal firm controlled by Gov. Jim Justice’s family has reached a nine-digit settlement agreement with a Swiss bank. Bluestone Resources Inc. has agreed to pay up to \$320 million to lenders, The Gazette Mail reports.

WISCONSIN Milwaukee: U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson was escorted by police to an emergency stairwell in General Mitchell International Airport late Friday morning after a self-described progressive political strategist confronted him about his effort to give former Vice President Mike Pence false elector paperwork ahead of the certification of the 2020 election.

WYOMING Cheyenne: The only insect in the state that’s listed as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act is being discovered in more streams. Wyofile.com reports the western glacier stonefly has been noted in eight new waterways, after researchers previously knew it to exist only in a few streams in the Absaroka and Beartooth wilderness and in Grand Teton and Glacier national parks.
From USA TODAY Network and wire reports

LIFELINE



RODRIGO, LEFT, AND LILY ALLEN BY WIREIMAGE

MAKING WAVES
OLIVIA RODRIGO

Olivia Rodrigo used her platform Saturday at Glastonbury Festival in southwest England to protest Friday's Supreme Court ruling overturning Roe v. Wade, which protects abortion rights. Telling the crowd that she's "devastated and terrified" by the decision, she brought out Lily Allen to perform Allen's 2009 hit "(Expletive) You." Announced Rodrigo: "This song goes out to the justices: Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Amy Coney Barrett, Brett Kavanaugh. We hate you!" Billie Eilish, Glastonbury's Friday headliner, described her own "Your Power" as a song "about the concept of power and how we need to always remember how not to abuse it. And today is a really, really dark day for women in the U.S."

STYLE STAR
SUSAN LUCCI

★ Soap opera royalty Susan Lucci (forever known as Erica Kane on "All My Children"), 75, hit the 2022 Daytime Emmy Awards red carpet Friday evening in Los Angeles wearing a triple-tiered, bubblegum-pink gown with spaghetti straps. She accessorized the look with a pink lip, a drop-diamond necklace and matching earrings.

INVISION/AP



IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY
WHO'S CELEBRATING TODAY

H.E.R. is 25. Khloé Kardashian is 38. Tobey Maguire is 47.

USA TODAY SNAPSHOTS®

Top paid iPhone apps

App Store Official Charts for the week ending June 21:

1. Minecraft, Mojang
2. Ho! Super Hero, Hot Chellelles
3. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
4. Bloons TD 6, Ninja Kiwi
5. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games



ASSOCIATED PRESS

TELEVISION



Ed Harris is back in black in "Westworld." PROVIDED BY JOHN JOHNSON/HBO

The Man in Black goes darker in 'Westworld'

Bryan Alexander USA TODAY

The Man in Black has returned, and he's doubly evil. ● Ed Harris, currently starring as the Tom Cruise-disdaining commanding officer in "Top Gun: Maverick," brings his brutal black-clad businessman William back to "Westworld" for Season 4 (premiered Sunday, 9 EDT/PDT). ● After the power villain was committed to a psychiatric hospital in last season, Harris is gunning to be back in his "Westworld" dark cowboy attire terrorizing the futuristic theme land. ● "That damn white jumpsuit loony-bin deal wasn't my favorite. It's just nice to get back to the Man in Black Western outfit," says Harris, 71. "This is what I signed up to do. And when I'm in it, it feels good."

Harris believes the seven-time Emmy-winning "Westworld" will ride again after Jonathan Nolan and Lisa Joy's sci-fi drama has drawn criticism for being too convoluted.

"I've talked to people who really loved Season 1, hung with Season 2 and then got a little lost in Season 3," says Harris. "So I hope the audience comes back and checks out Season 4."

Harris talks to USA TODAY about "Westworld" evil, that "Top Gun: Maverick" jet flyby scene and the worst opening line ever:

Question: The Season 3 finale showed a shocking new robot Man in Black brawling with the human Man in Black. So Ed Harris, what was it like fighting Ed Harris in the cliffhanger?

Ed Harris: That was kind of interesting fighting myself. We rehearsed that scene very specifically with stunt men and stunt doubles. So it all worked out very smoothly. But no spoilers as to how that ended.

Q: I won't reveal the human Man in Black's Season 4 fate, but we can reveal the robot double is a golfing phenom, hitting holes-in-one at will. Did that please your inner golfer?

Harris: That was fun. I hadn't



Harris attends the Season 4 premiere of "Westworld" in New York on June 21. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

golfed in quite a while. I gave my golf game up about three years ago when I threw my putter into the bushes, and it took me half an hour to find it. I decided it was time for a break. So they had a pro work on my swing for the scene. I hope they chose my better ones.

Q: You've played the Man in Black since 2016. Is it hard to keep up that unspeakable evil for so long?

Harris: Everybody has a dark

See HARRIS, Page 7B

BOOKS

We collect the titles of the year – so far

Barbara VanDenburgh
USA TODAY

A plague-ravaged world bent by time travel. A serial killer counting down the minutes on death row. Two Jedi at odds working together to solve a mystery. A wife helping her husband die with dignity. These have little in common, except they're all subjects of some of the year's best books so far.

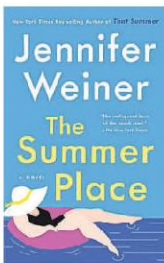
The year already has delivered an embarrassment of literary riches: Jennifer Weiner wrote the ultimate beach read just in time for summer break; Emily St. John Mandel expanded our minds with a time-bending novel that made us feel smarter for having read it; and Amy Bloom broke our hearts with a memoir about her husband's assisted suicide.

They are among the nine books this year USA TODAY critics gave perfect ★★★★★ reviews. Here's the complete list of this year's best reads so far:

'The Summer Place'

By Jennifer Weiner

From the master of the summer beach read comes the story of a family in all its messy glory forced to face its issues – secrets, misunderstandings, regrets and unhealed wounds – as a Cape Cod beach house wedding looms. This sweet summer treat hits the spot on a warm summer day. "With its Cape Cod setting that evokes seashells, cool water, melting ice cream and summer bliss, it's sure to be the must-have beach bag item this year," our critic writes.



'Star Wars: Brotherhood'

By Mike Chen

Set shortly after the events of "Star Wars: Attack of the Clones," "Brotherhood" stars Obi-Wan Kenobi and Anakin Skywalker investigating a devastating explosion on Cato Neimoidia. With peace on the brink, the quarrelsome master and apprentice must stand together as brothers. The book came out just in time to whet fans' appetites before the Disney series "Obi-Wan Kenobi" premiered in May, and our critic called it "one of the best 'Star Wars' novels to date."

'Sea of Tranquility'

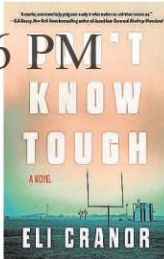
By Emily St. John Mandel

The author of "Station Eleven" and "The Glass Hotel" delivered a fantastical new novel that sweeps across time and space, taking readers from Vancouver Island in 1912 to a lunar colony 500 years later. "Sea of Tranquility" is full of grandeur but without even a whiff of grandiosity," our critic raved. "It's transporting and brilliant and generous, and I haven't ever read anything quite like it."

'Don't Know Tough'

By Eli Cranor

Billy Lowe is the star running back for the high school football team in Denton, Arkansas. When his troubled home life causes him to act out on the field, head coach Trent Powers is determined to save him. Think "Friday Night Lights" with a Southern Gothic twist. Our critic writes: "Don't Know Tough" takes the adage of "Faith, Family, and Football" and reveals it to be a vicious canard, or at least a decent cover for the common failings of god and men, the violence on the field an acceptable proxy for the violence that exists behind closed doors. A major work from a bright, young talent."

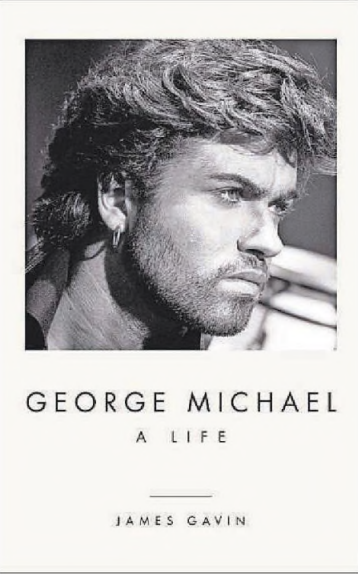


See BEST BOOKS, Page 7B

BOOKS

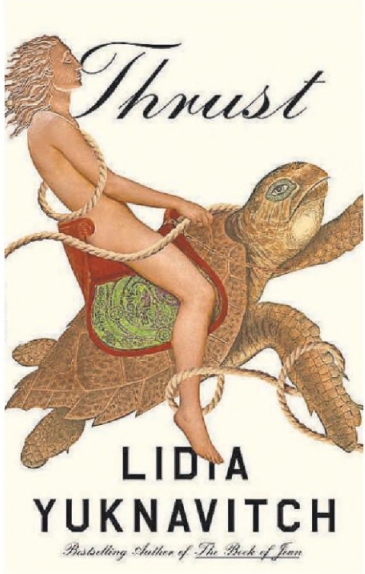
Digging into Michael’s ‘Life’; Pipher helps find the ‘Light’

In search of something good to read? USA TODAY’s Barbara Vandenburgh scopes out the shelves for this week’s hottest new book releases. All books are on sale Tuesday.



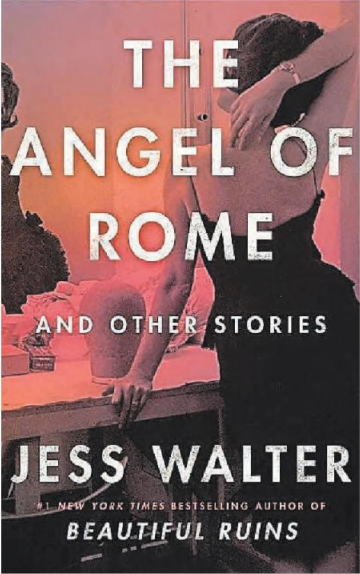
‘George Michael: A Life’
By James Gavin (Abrams Press, nonfiction)

What it’s about: Music biographer Gavin offers a probing, definitive portrait of the equally gifted and tortured artist, charting his meteoric rise in the ’80s through his public self-destruction and death.
The buzz: “Gavin’s real stories of triumphs and tragedies poignantly explain one of pop’s most enigmatic stars,” says Kirkus Reviews.



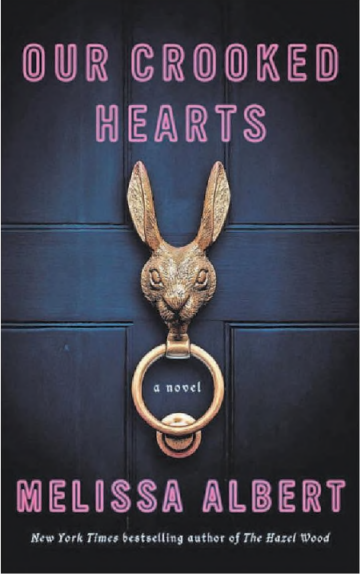
‘Thrust’
By Lidia Yuknavitch (Riverhead, fiction)

What it’s about: In the late 21st century, rising waters and a growing police state threaten Laisve, a motherless girl who uses her time-traveling abilities to rescue vulnerable people through history.
The buzz: A starred review from Publishers Weekly calls it “blistering and visionary” and says, “This is the author’s best yet.”



‘The Angel of Rome: And Other Stories’
By Jess Walter (Harper, fiction)

What it’s about: The author of “Beautiful Ruins” and “The Cold Millions” returns with a new collection of short fiction whose settings span from Italy to Idaho. In the title story, a shy student in Rome encounters the Italian actress of his dreams.
The buzz: A starred review from Publishers Weekly says reading the collection is “like sitting next to the guy at a dinner party who has something hilarious to say about everyone and knows all their secrets.”



‘Our Crooked Hearts’
By Melissa Albert (Flatiron, fiction)

What it’s about: In Albert’s new contemporary-fantasy young adult novel, a mother and daughter are bound together by witchcraft when 17-year-old Ivy begins having unnatural experiences – and finding mutilated rabbits.
The buzz: “Riveting, creepy, and utterly bewitching; do not miss this one,” says a starred review for Kirkus Reviews.



‘A Life in Light: Meditations on Impermanence’
By Mary Pipher (Bloomsbury, nonfiction)

What it’s about: The author of “Women Rowing North” and “Reviving Ophelia” offers luminous insights in this new memoir in essays, drawing from her experiences as a psychologist specializing in trauma.
The buzz: “Those struggling to overcome darkness will find a guiding light in this incandescent work,” says a starred review from Publishers Weekly.

PUZZLES

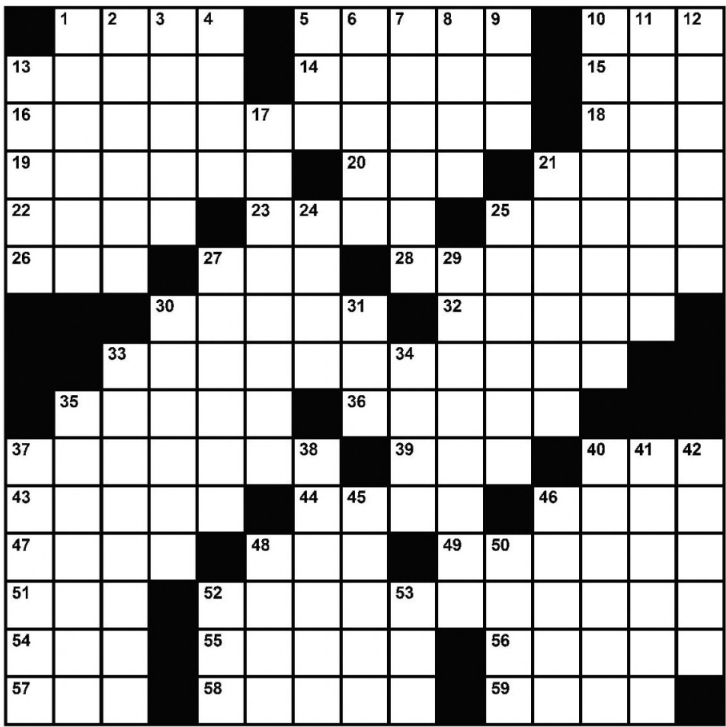
CROSSWORD

EDITED Erik Agard
BY Will Nediger

NAME NAMES

ACROSS

- 1 Salon applications
- 5 Dollars
- 10 MLB execs
- 13 Panthers cap
- 14 Not cool
- 15 Salesperson, for short
- 16 “Silueta Series” artist
- 18 Devoured
- 19 “Can you explain this gap in your ___?”
- 20 Golf peg
- 21 Something changed during a pit stop
- 22 At any point in time
- 23 Contribute to a forum thread
- 25 Lose your cool
- 26 Feeling blue
- 27 Short jump
- 28 Like Venezuela and Saudi Arabia
- 30 Fruits from palms
- 32 Parakeet enclosures
- 33 Title character of “Veep”
- 35 Falling-outs
- 36 Unspoken
- 37 Converts into cash
- 39 Vase in a museum
- 40 Informative TV ad
- 43 Currently winning
- 44 Heap
- 46 Prefix for “golf” or “skirt”
- 47 ___ Improved Player (sports award)
- 48 Particle such as H+ or Na+
- 49 Bowls over
- 51 ___ a ring on it
- 52 Voice of Elsa in “Frozen”
- 54 ___ your imagination
- 55 Supermarket departments
- 56 Look without blinking



- 57 Energetic enthusiasm
- 58 Desert havens
- 59 Impudent talk
- DOWN
- 1 Swiss city on a lake
- 2 Removed from a whiteboard
- 3 Mammal from Madagascar
- 4 Part of a dandelion
- 5 Pal
- 6 Parts of an apartment complex
- 7 ___ dust (orange snack residue)
- 8 Wind-blown toy
- 9 Place to get a peel
- 10 Not as high-definition
- 11 Standards measurement
- 12 Maria W. Stewart’s “Why Sit Ye Here and Die?” was one
- 13 Exposes
- 17 Favoritism toward relatives and friends
- 21 Aim for
- 24 Accepting customers
- 25 Qualifying game
- 27 Stopped
- 29 Middle of some frozen sandwiches
- 30 Loss
- 31 Took a load off
- 33 Avoid dealing with
- 34 Crush in competition
- 35 Provide new accommodations for
- 37 Increase in intensity
- 38 Papers
- 40 Pies that aren’t for dessert
- 41 Contemptuous expressions
- 42 Supermarket section
- 45 Common type of bellybutton
- 46 Stingray relative
- 48 Concept
- 50 Something that needs tidying up
- 52 Answer at the altar
- 53 Donkey

Friday’s Answer
B I A G C A B S S P R O U T
I M O A V O W E L O I S E
S O D C A R A M U L L E T
Q U I T T I N G T I M E
U N V E I L A S E X U A L
E T A L F L O W G P A
L Y D I A E A G L E S
Q U E E R T H E O R Y
J O U S T S T I T L E
A R T M E E T W I I S
G A Z E B O S S C O N C E
S I T A T U R N W O R S J U M
P U R A S E L O R E D E G O
F A U L T S W E D S T E N

Answers: Call 1-900-988-8300, 99 cents a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-320-4280.

WORD ROUNDUP

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

- Find and Circle:
Six Best Picture winners
Three evergreens
Gold, silver and bronze positions
Two opposing directions
Two things commonly brushed

Friday’s answer: GRIMACE FROWN SMIRK SMILE GRIN / DRUM LUTE OBOE HARP / PARROT FALCON TURKEY / ANGELS METS CUBS / TOAD FROG

QUICKCROSS

By John Wilmes

III
Kiln
(Great [?] Cook)
Buy-in
(Baking [?] water)
Lendl or Rodriguez
Penny
Arthroscopic topic

Friday’s Answer
B O A T
U L T I
R E A P
P A D S

QUICKCROSS
ON YOUR PHONE
puzzles.usatoday.com

ACRASHROHAIR
GRWESTGTEETH
TTTGLADIATOR
SSROCESPRUCE
RAQINXQROCKY
IEHIRZSECON
FCPMYCEDARQR
AMADEUSTHIRD

UP & DOWN WORDS

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt

1. BATTERY
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7. AWAY

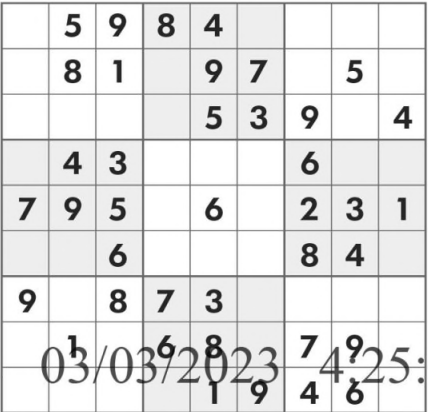
Clues:
1. Corrosive substance
2. Psychedelic tunes
3. Crystalline confection
4. Fruit with a sweet coating
5. Steve Jobs’ company
6. Intel product
7. Make incremental progress

Friday’s Answer
GIVE TO GO FISH TACO MEAT MARKET PRICE
TO GO FISH TACO MEAT MARKET PRICE

PLAY ONLINE
PUZZLES.USATODAY.COM

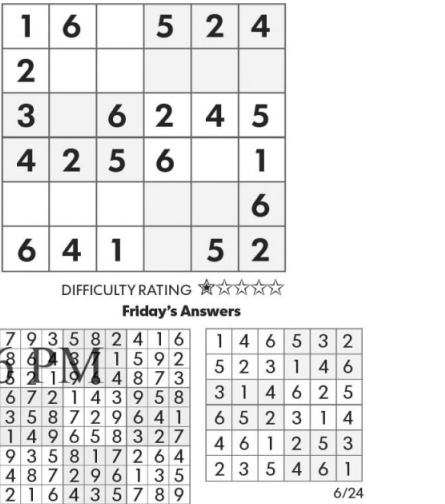
SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (no repeats).



6/27
DIFFICULTY RATING ★☆☆☆☆
SUDOKU FUSION
ON YOUR PHONE
puzzles.usatoday.com

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains the numbers 1 through 6 (no repeats).



Today’s theme
Character traits

1 ao 2 abc 3 def
4 ghi 5 jkl 6 mno
7 pqr 8 tuv 9 wxyz

Use the phone keypad to decode the clues.
For example:
2 could be A, B or C... and 5678 could be LOST

Friday’s solution

DON’T QUOTE ME

Rearrange the words to complete the quote.
BORN HAT I PEOPLE TAILS TOP

THINK WAS IN
AND

Friday’s Answer: “A guy knows he’s in love when he loses interest in his car for a couple of days.” - Tim Allen

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Abuse may linger after leaving a narcissist

Jenna Ryu
USA TODAY

On the outside, Tina Swithin lived a picture-perfect life. She had an affectionate and charming husband, Seth, who won her over with extravagant gifts, flattering compliments and the promise of a fairytale romance.

But in reality, Swithin was trapped in a toxic marriage with a narcissist who left her feeling empty.

Behind the public facade of being “the golden couple,” their relationship was fraught with lies, gaslighting and emotional abuse. In private, he controlled with whom she spent time or where she went. As quickly as he put her up on a pedestal, he brought her down with degrading remarks about her post-pregnancy body or broken childhood.

And after nine years, she did what all survivors of domestic violence are encouraged to do: She left.

However, Swithin learned the only thing harder than being married to a narcissist was divorcing one. Past research has supported that intimate partner violence can become dangerous, and even deadly, following a divorce, with numerous studies finding that up to 90% of women



reported continued harassment, stalking and abuse after leaving the relationship. The reality is that when the marriage ends, the abuse may not, and instead transitions into a new form of domestic violence known as post-separation abuse.

“I did not even recognize the person I saw in the mirror,” Swithin, now a divorce coach and consultant, tells USA TODAY. “The person staring back at me was no longer a free spirit, she was in a deep state of pain and confusion.”

In the newly released final chapters of her book, “Divorcing a Narcissist: One Mom’s Battle,” Swithin reflects on her decadeslong experiences with financial, psychological and legal abuse after her divorce. It took her nine years to walk away from Seth, but another decade to be legally freed from the abuse.

At first, Swithin says the positives of the relationship outweighed the negatives: She was too caught up in the euphoria of her seemingly stable boyfriend that she ignored the red flags of his love-bombing, a common sign of an unhealthy relationship that involves grand gestures of affection early on in dating. Or gaslighting, psychological manipulation that causes someone to question their thoughts and sanity.



Tina Swithin reflects on the lessons learned from her high-conflict divorce with a toxic narcissist and how she prevailed. PROVIDED BY TINA SWITHIN

But the problem with narcissistic and psychological abuse is that it’s slow yet painful. Only a few months into the relationship, Swithin says Seth urged her to move in with him, away from her family and friends – a seemingly spontaneous and romantic opportunity that she later realized was a strategy to isolate her. He also convinced her to quit her job and attend college instead, which eventually made her financially dependent on him.

When he wasn’t idealizing her, he was criticizing and devaluing her. In her book, she reflects on the times he implanted the idea that without him, she was nothing and “no one would ever want (her) as a partner” due to her multiple sclerosis diagnosis or her family history with mental health.

“An abuser does not show up during the courtship and verbally degrade you or psychologically abuse you. If they do, it is so subtle that you would not consider it to be abuse,” Swithin says.

“Many victims find themselves dependent on this person and unable to see a way out. There is typically a high level of emotional and psychological abuse that permeates through one’s mind to the point where they are left confused, unable to articulate what is happening and second-guessing themselves.”

While Swithin searched for ways to “fix” their relationship with therapy or medication, she was “devastated” to learn that her marriage likely was beyond repair.

Swithin and Seth initially agreed on an amicable separation. But it soon spiraled into a contentious 10-year court battle.

According to Swithin, the divorce and custody proceedings were just another “game to inflict pain and suffering” and continue the abuse. He would use his charm to manipulate the courts, renting and staging a home perfectly for parent-

ing evaluations despite being millions of dollars into debt. He would withhold medical and therapeutic care for their two daughters, while pretending he wanted to be a part of their lives in front of the judge.

As Seth painted himself as the victim in the courtroom, behind closed doors he terrorized Swithin with verbally abusive texts, emails and phone calls, calling her “white trash” and even stalking her outside her home.

“The post-separation abuse that I experienced during the divorce was more painful than the abuse I suffered during the relationship,” Swithin says.

However, she warns the post-separation abuse didn’t just affect her: It had immediate and long-lasting effects on her young daughters.

“The narcissist knows that the number one way to hurt the healthy parent is to target the children even though they never had a relationship with the children,” she says. “They often use the children as pawns and weapons. Because they thrive in the spotlight, the family court system becomes their stage.”

After 10 years in court, Swithin won in 2019, receiving full custody, with no visitation or telephone communication for Seth. But for most of the trial, the courts fell for the facade of a narcissist.

“This was not the way I ever wanted to be validated,” Swithin says. “It wasn’t about winning. It was about protecting my children and when the family court system gets it wrong, you don’t get an apology letter. You are left unpacking a lifetime of trauma.”

Like many survivors, Swithin entered the justice system with a false sense of security: She assumed that after leaving her abuser, the courts would protect her children and finally provide peace. But often times, “victims of domestic abuse ... are blindsided by their new reality, which is post-separation abuse and in-

stitutional betrayal.”

Even though she gathered proof of her ex-husband’s abusive and neglectful behavior, Swithin says the justice system initially favored Seth and his charm. Despite his DUI charge, the judge waived his parenting class and therapy requirements and instead granted him more visitation time, and she was forced to undergo two full child custody evaluations, appointment of minor’s counsel, more than 40 court dates and numerous Child Protective Service investigations.

While physical abuse and threats may be easier to prove in the legal system, Swithin says the courts are less equipped to understand the complexity of emotional abuse. Her reports of his stalking, drunken behavior around the kids and his harassing texts and emails were dismissed as “a domestic dispute.”

“It is a very uneven playing field and power dynamic... and I discovered that there is no such thing as justice or fairness within the family court system,” Swithin says. “Human lives are reduced to case numbers and business transactions, and children are divided like property or retirement accounts.”

At the time, Swithin never thought she would escape the narcissistic abuse even after divorce.

But she attributes her perseverance to the protection of her daughters from the abuse she endured.

“I worked very hard to provide stability for my children and the final straw for me involved the fear that he would speak to the girls the way he spoke to me, or that they would learn that this is what marriage was,” she says.

For much of the battle, she felt as if she was suffering alone. She was her own attorney because of financial constraints, while simultaneously providing stability for her daughters as a single mom. Through her independent research on narcissism, she mastered communication methods like “yellow rocking” – or being as unresponsive as possible to bore the narcissist, while infusing some emotions for the sake of the kids and the courts.

Swithin decided to share her story publicly to educate other survivors of emotional and narcissistic abuse. Her blog “One Mom’s Battle” – initially created as a personal outlet for relief and empowerment – now offers comfort and resources to more than 100,000 victims.

“When I first started speaking out about the abuse I had endured during the relationship and post-separation, I truly believed I was an isolated case,” she says. “No one else was publicly speaking out on this topic (at the time), and as I started to receive emails and messages from people around the world, I understood the importance of using my voice because so many others were silenced.”

Best books

Continued from Page 5B

‘Booth’

By Karen Joy Fowler
The PEN/Faulkner Award-winning author of “We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves” wows with a novel about the family behind one of American history’s most notorious figures: John Wilkes Booth. This snapshot of a troubled family in a country in its own throes of change offers insights into our current moment. “‘Booth’ doesn’t hold anyone in judgment; like all the best literature, it seeks to better understand the human heart in all its flawed complexity,” reads our review. “It’s a haunting book, not just for all its literal ghosts, but for its suggestion that those ghosts still have not been exorcised from this country.”

‘In Love: A Memoir of Love and Loss’

By Amy Bloom
Bloom’s life, and that of her husband, Brian, is changed forever when an MRI confirmed the worst: Brian had Alzheimer’s. The couple makes the decision to go to Dignitas, an assisted-dying facility in Switzerland. “Bloom, an author and psychotherapist brings to her heart-rending task the skills of both professions: a clinician’s intimate knowledge of diseases of the brain and a novelist’s intuitive understanding of the human heart,” our review reads.

‘Notes on an Execution’

By Danya Kukafka
The author of “Girl in Snow” returns with an empathetic and gripping story

about a serial killer on death row primarily told from the perspectives of the women in his life as the clock ticks to his execution. Our critic writes, “‘Notes on an Execution’ is a career-defining novel – powerful, important, intensely human and filled with a unique examination of tragedy, one where the reader is left with a curious emotion: hope.”

‘A Thousand Steps’

By T. Jefferson Parker
In 1968 Laguna Beach, California, 16-year-old Matt Anthony’s big sister has gone missing. The cops mark her as a runaway hippie, but Matt knows better, especially after another missing girl is found dead on the beach. Our critic writes, “This twisty tale of a teen’s desperate plan to save his sister and right his off-keel family is a compelling coming-of-age thriller that will entrance you with its ‘60s vibe and backdrop and captivate you with its engaging storytelling and a believable cast of characters – including one heroic kid you can’t help but root for.”

‘To Paradise’

By Hanya Yanagihara
From the author of “A Little Life” comes an epic spanning three centuries – with a trio of stories set in 1893, 1993 and 2093 – about life, love and the American experiment. “‘To Paradise’ is a novel of the highest order,” our critic writes. “Yanagihara writes with elegance, evoking emotion and rendering believable characters who move the plot. Her perceptive eye is evident in the three separate settings, placing the reader in each time frame through multiple narratives, which she orchestrates with great acuity.”

Harris

Continued from Page 5B

side; my dark side is more accessible. Truthfully, it’s kind of cathartic to get some of that stuff out playing a guy like this. In my day-to-day life, I’m pretty peaceful, not violent. I have a temper, but I’m not a fighter. I’m much more about trying to find love in my heart as much as possible. But there’s a part of me that’s a little dark.

Q: In that instantly famous “Top Gun: Maverick” scene, was that you taking the blow from a low-flying jet?

Harris: Yeah, it was pretty cool. It blew the roof off the guard station. The first time it happened, maybe I took a step backward, it blew me back. But the second time, I was just holding my ground knowing what to expect. It’s really impressive seeing this jet coming at you from so far away and just flying right over your head.

Q: Is it true that your opening gambit to actress Amy Madigan, now your wife of nearly 40 years, was, ‘I like your socks’?

Harris: That’s true. That was my big opening line. She walked into this semi-circle of actors at a play rehearsal, and there was one chair open. She sat down next to me and I said, ‘I like your socks.’ They were very colorful socks. It seemed to work, what can I tell you? We still get along great.

Q: You two have done so much theater together, including “Buried Child” in New York and London. Is the 24/7 of that difficult?

Harris: Some people shy away from working with their spouse. But I enjoy working onstage with her more than anything. You’re both doing some-



Ed Harris is out and about and the Man in Black is again wearing black in “Westworld.” PROVIDED BY HBO

thing you love to do and are doing it together. It just brings us closer together, sharing that.

Q: What was it like directing Robert Duvall, who’s 91, in the prison drama ‘The Ploughman’?

Harris: We’ve only shot 18 minutes. I’ve been trying to raise money for this movie for 18 years; it’s a really great role that Robert really, really wants to do. But I’m not sure Robert’s gonna be able to do it because he’s getting up there and had a little trouble walking. But we’ll see what happens. I’ve been living with it so long, I’m not sure what the future holds.

Q: Speaking of the future, in 1998’s “Truman Show,” Jim Carrey’s Truman leaves the serene life reality show created by your TV corporation-owning Christoph for real life. Seeing the state of the world in 2022, do you think Truman regrets leaving?

Harris: No, I don’t think he regrets it at all. Even as (messed) up as this world is at the moment. As opposed to living on a reality show, I think Truman prefers his freedom.

STREAMING

‘Chernobyl’: History as it happens

Bryan Alexander
USA TODAY

“Chernobyl: The Lost Tapes” shows the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in a disturbing and unique way – entirely as it happened, on film.

Documentary filmmaker James Jones spent two years painstakingly hunting down footage taken during the unfolding crisis, starting five hours after the explosion on the morning of April 26 at the No. 4 reactor near Pripjat, Ukraine. The Soviet Union regime under Mikhail Gorbachev allowed the filming, while forbidding the dissemination of even basic information about the worst nuclear disaster in history from his own people and the world.

“It’s so strange and counterintuitive because there’s this desperate Chernobyl cover-up going on, and yet they film it all,” Jones says. “They assumed they would always control that material.”

The most surprising revelations in “Lost Tapes” (streaming on HBO Max):

Invisible radiation was seen in insidious white film flashes

“Lost Tapes” shows the prospering, almost utopian Soviet community around Chernobyl, with beaches, parks and the promise of safe jobs. As the authorities hid news of radiation fallout after the explosion, there are scenes of disturbingly normal life, interrupted by popping white flashes: the effects of radiation on the film.

“The weekend after the accident, you had parents pushing baby carriages in the park, a wedding, and then you gradually start to notice these white flashes on the film, which are from incredibly high radiation levels,” says Jones. “Yet people are completely oblivious.”

The ‘real’ Lyudmila from ‘Chernobyl’ provides a key voice

The story of Lyudmila Ignatenko, the



Children play with hard hats in neighborhoods near Chernobyl. PROVIDED BY SKY UK

widow of one of the first firefighters to die in the fire, was featured in the 2019 HBO miniseries “Chernobyl,” played by Jessie Buckley. She went into hiding from the media fallout that followed the Emmy-winning series, Jones says.

Yet Ignatenko is one of the voices stoically leading viewers through “Lost Tapes” footage while explaining her husband Vasily’s hellish ordeal of succumbing to the skin-peeling horrors of acute radiation.

“Lost Tapes” shows footage of an emotional Lyudmila returning to her still-intact home. Once full of love and hope, it’s permanently closed off in the radiation-filled exclusion zone.

“Lyudmila has known enough suffering for 10 lifetimes, but she is the heart of the film, really,” says Jones.

‘Lost Tapes’ looks into the eyes of the ‘biorobots’

Jones received a major breakthrough from a Kiev (now Kyiv) source who had

hours of unseen footage. The found film shows the control room as operators desperately attempt to use a remote-controlled German-made robot to remove radioactive graphite from the plant’s roof. When the cutting-edge machine is stopped by the radiation, the heartbreak is palpable, even behind stolic faces.

“You can see this was their last chance to not have to go up there themselves,” says Jones.

The deadly task of removing the radioactive material was left to civil and military personnel known as liquidators and often referred to as “biorobots.”

The footage shows the hurried scenes on the roof, as workers sprint to remove the graphite one shovelful at a time, and features the nervously pumped-up young men, unaware of the perils they’re facing. “You see them egging each other on, saying the radiation is no big deal,” says Jones.

As one survivor says of the aftermath: “No one knew they were literally

going to hell.”

Fate of Chernobyl babies: From maternity wards to birth defects

“Lost Tapes” opens with a local official proudly showing off a newly built maternity ward, the ultimate sign of a prosperous, safe future.

But the optimism is destroyed by Chernobyl, notably by the birth mutations caused by radiation exposure that followed the disaster. A 1996 Nature study showed that children born in the heavily polluted areas near Chernobyl had twice the normal rate of a certain type of mutation.

Ignatenko, who hid her pregnancy to visit her ailing husband in the hospital, gave birth to a daughter, Natasha, whose name was chosen by her father before his death. He died hours after her birth.

The Chernobyl effects still linger in Ukraine

One ‘Lost Tapes’ clip shows Gorbachev finally visiting Chernobyl and taking heated questions from workers suffering medical symptoms.

Distrust builds among Ukrainians over the government’s handling of the disaster as claims of radiation sickness are called “radiophobia” by health officials. “They were gaslighting an entire nation,” says Jones.

Gorbachev cited the fallout from Chernobyl as the “real cause” of the Soviet Union’s collapse.

Ukraine voted for independence in 1991. Jones was just finishing “Lost Tapes” in February when Russian President Vladimir Putin, once again controlling his country’s media, ordered the invasion of Ukraine.

“We never thought this film would be as urgent and relevant as it is now. We’re seeing the effects of Kremlin lies today,” says Jones.

“And hopefully seeing Ukrainian resilience against those lies.”

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Seasonal depression can dampen summer fun days

Alia E. Dastagir
USA TODAY

Seasonal depression is a mood disorder with a pattern. People typically associate it with winter, when colder months and shorter days leave people feeling sluggish, agitated and even hopeless. But seasonal depression also can show up in summer when stifling heat, more sunlight and social stressors overwhelm.

“Seasonal affective disorder is experiencing symptoms of depression during a particular season,” says Dr. Christine Crawford, associate medical director at The National Alliance on Mental Illness. “The symptoms are severe enough at times to meet criteria for major depressive disorder.”

USA TODAY spoke with Crawford about factors that may drive summer seasonal depression, who is most at risk and how those suffering can cope.

Question: What causes summer seasonal depression?

Christine Crawford: (In) the summer months, even though there’s plenty of sunlight, there are a lot of other factors, especially environmental factors and social factors, that may make it such that people are more likely to experience symptoms of depression.

There is research that has looked at

exposure to pollen levels and found that for some people in the summer months when they’re exposed to more pollen, it makes them more agitated, more irritable, and that can have an impact on their mood and their day-to-day outlook.

Some people really need to rely on darkness to start their circadian rhythm, to know it’s time to go to bed. Those daylight hours that the summer months provide can actually negatively impact some people’s sleep/wake cycle. When sleep is off, it’s harder to regulate mood throughout the day.

Q: What are some of the social and environmental factors that can contribute to summer seasonal depression?

Crawford: Summer months for some people can mean a significant change in day-to-day structure and routine. Perhaps they’re not getting the regular sleep that they used to get or are no longer engaging in certain activities to keep them physically active to ensure that they’re socially connected.

We’re socialized to believe that summer equals happiness. And when you see everyone wearing their summer outfits, going off on vacations, showing off their toned and fit bodies, for some people that can have an impact on their overall self-esteem and contribute to psychological stress.

Q: Are some people more vulnerable to summer seasonal depression?

Crawford: If you’re someone who already has challenges around sleep, being able to fall asleep and stay asleep on a regular schedule, it’s really important to talk to your primary care provider about what options are available to ensure that you get a good night’s sleep. If you’re not well-rested, that can increase your likelihood of developing symptoms of depression.

People who may have a family history of depression are also more at risk, and people who may be experiencing significant stressors in their lives that impact their ability to maintain structure, routine, good sleep, good exercise and social support. All of those things matter for an overall good mood.

Q: Are there gender differences in susceptibility?

Crawford: Overall, seasonal affective disorder tends to impact women four times more often than men. When we’re thinking about some of these changes in routines during the summer, the big one is school and the shift in caretaker responsibilities, which can be quite burdensome to particular family members.

It can create a tremendous amount of stress when you’re going from a situation in which there’s lots of support to being the one to have to come up with

the activities for the kids to keep them busy. At the same time, you’re exhausted and running on low energy. Many parents don’t have the time and the flexibility in their schedule to do self-care because they’re prioritizing the health and well-being of their children.

Sometimes, in the summer months, we can overdo it, especially when we’re trying to make the summertime as meaningful and memorable and as fun as possible for our children.

Q: If you are experiencing symptoms of summer seasonal depression how can you manage them?

Crawford: I encourage people to set limits and to set firm boundaries with people, with regards to what it is you’re willing to do in the summer. Often, we’re accustomed to saying yes to everything, not wanting to disappoint other people or turn down certain invites, but it’s OK to skip over that brunch or that trip to the beach if you really need to sleep in and take care of yourself.

Get good sleep. ... There’s a particular form of therapy called cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia that could be a really helpful tool that people can use on their own.

If you’re struggling, tell people you trust. Sometimes part of self-care is knowing how to allow other people to take care of you.

MARKETPLACE TODAY

For advertising information: 1.800.397.0070 www.russelljohns.com/usat

To view more Classified listings, visit: classifieds.usatoday.com

<div>NOTICES</div> <div><div>PUBLIC NOTICE</div><div>Request for Proposal (RFP) E&I Cooperative Services, Inc. invites the submission of sealed proposals for: RFP# EI00134-2022RFP for Executive Search & Recruitment Services Proposals are due by 1:00 PM ET on Thursday, August 4, 2022. Respondents must submit their RFP response using E&I's Electronic Sourcing Solution which is accessible via https://www.eandi.org/contract-finder/rfp-development/. <i>E&I does not accept hard copy submissions or submissions through any other medium other than its Electronic Sourcing Solution.</i> E&I is committed to developing mutually advantageous business relationships with minority, women, disabled, veteran and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses. Place your ad in USA TODAY Marketplace! Call: 800-397-0070</div></div>	<div>PUBLIC NOTICE</div> <div>The University of California, Office of the President is requesting proposals from qualified and experienced firms to provide Building Management Systems (RFP No. 002815) In order to be considered, the Offeror must complete and submit a proposal to the University of California, Office of the President in accordance with the solicitation documentation available at http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/. VIRTUAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: Wednesday, July 6, 2022, 10:00 am local time. See RFP for more details PROPOSAL DUE DATE: AUGUST 11th, BEFORE 5:00 PM LOCAL TIME. CONTACT: Marilyn Biscotti, Senior Commodity Manager, 510-587-6095 or Marilyn.biscotti@ucop.edu.</div> <div><div>NEW GREAT MARKETPLACE RATES!</div><div>Scan QR Code for Current Specials</div></div>	<div>BUSINESS</div> <div><div>BUSINESS OPPORTUNITES</div><div>STILL CHASING MONEY? Copy us. Newcomers doing better than \$30k Pot'l in their first month! TooDamnEasy.com 24-hour Recording: 1-800-304-7505 Ext #1 Referral ID: TD103219 <small>Affiliate Opp.</small></div></div> <div><div>GET NOTICED!</div><div>Advertise Today! (800) 397-0070</div></div>	<div>MARKETPLACE</div> <div><div>BOOKS/PUBLICATIONS</div><div><div>SECONDARY BREAK</div><div>An NBA Dad's Story</div><div>written by: Marvin Williams Sr.</div><div>This book is about a young man and his love for basketball. It will show you how ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE when you continue to follow your passion.</div><div>Available for purchase at BarnesAndNoble.com and Amazon.com</div></div><div><div>A Garden Observed: Cultivating A Life</div><div>by Melanie Boyer</div><div>Enchanting 220 page coffee-table devotional filled with garden photography</div><div>Available on Amazon</div></div></div>
---	--	--	--

No easy Wimbledon road for Serena



Dan Wolken
Columnist
USA TODAY

After a year away from tennis, Serena Williams will begin her 21st appearance at Wimbledon with a first-round match against 113th-ranked Harmony Tan of France. Wimbledon released its draw Friday, with tournament action set to begin Monday.

All things considered, it should be a relatively favorable matchup for Williams, who has won an Open Era record 23 Grand Slam titles. But with Williams, who turned 40 last fall, there are more unknowns than knowns about how she will perform at this tournament.

After reaching the Australian Open

semifinals to begin 2021, Williams' form was not particularly strong in the spring, winning just four of seven matches before tearing her hamstring in the first round of Wimbledon. She didn't play another official match until last week, making her return in doubles of a warm-up event in Eastbourne, England.

Williams looked relatively good in those two matches, given the time away, but playing singles is a much different scenario. What does her movement look like? How will her body respond to playing multiple matches? How does she even match up these days against the top women's players? It's hard to know.

Although Williams should be able to get through the first round, it's by no means an easy draw for her on paper. In the second round, she could face 32nd

See WOLKEN, Page 2C



The first-round match for seven-time Wimbledon champion Serena Williams, against 113th-ranked Harmony Tan of France, is scheduled for Tuesday. PETER VAN DEN BERG/USA TODAY SPORTS

CHUN RALLIES TO WIN PGA



In Gee Chun celebrates after making her putt on the 18th green Sunday during the final round of the KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland. After squandering the lead earlier in the round, she finished better than Lexi Thompson to secure her third women's major title.

Story, 3C SCOTT TAETSCH/USA TODAY SPORTS



Nancy Armour
Columnist
USA TODAY

Roe ruling puts gains of Title IX at risk

A day after celebrating Title IX and the far-reaching gains women have made because of it, the U.S. Supreme Court stripped away the right that made it all possible.

Without Roe v. Wade giving women the power to control their bodies and decide their own destinies, Title IX would have been a shell of itself. Now it will be in half of America.

"It's oddly cruel for this to happen during this time of Title IX, (when we're) celebrating this piece of legislation that gave so many women the opportunity to make our own choices about what we wanted to do with our lives," an emotional Megan Rapinoe said Friday, hours after the Supreme Court overturned Roe.

"And, in the context of athletics, gave us the opportunity to pursue a unicorn talent to be professional athletes," she said. "Or to go to college ... and get an education and eventually change their situation or choose for themselves what they want their situation to be."

Rapinoe was among 500 current and former female athletes who submitted an amicus brief in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, asserting that the reproductive rights protected by Roe allowed women to capitalize on the opportunities afforded by Title IX.

See ARMOUR, Page 2C



USWNT star Megan Rapinoe called the overturning of Roe "oddly cruel." GRACE HOLLARS/USA TODAY SPORTS

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM

Judge hits walk-off homer as Yankees beat Astros

Sean Farrell
NorthJersey.com | USA TODAY Network

NEW YORK – Seemingly every chapter of this New York Yankees season has brought a new layer of history.

On Sunday, it was almost for all the wrong reasons.

Houston Astros starter Jose Urquidy took a no-hitter into the seventh, but Aaron Judge smacked a walk-off home

run in the 10th as the Yankees salvaged a four-game split with a stunning 6-3 win.

It's the 10th walk-off victory of the year for the Yanks and the second of the series for Judge, the hero on Thursday.

Michael King held the Astros scoreless in their half of the 10th, even after Isiah Kiner-Falefa flubbed a routine ground ball to start the inning.

Now the concern turns to Gleyber Torres, who left the game after an awkward

fall near the third base bag. Torres and the Yanks were held hitless for more than 16 straight innings dating back to a loss on Friday night. It's their longest streak over the last 70 years according to Elias Sports Bureau.

Giancarlo Stanton put that streak to an end with a solo home run to center with one out in the seventh.

DJ LeMahieu hit a tying, two-run home run off reliever Phil Maton an in-

ning later to reignite a crowd of 44,028.

Before then, the Yankees were in danger of losing three straight games for the first time since May 22-23.

Urquidy retired the first 11 batters on Sunday after watching three of his Astros teammates combine for a no-no a day earlier. But the Yankees came to life when Houston manager Dusty Baker

See YANKEES, Page 2C

Wolken

Continued from Page 1C

seed Sara Sorribes Tormo, who does not have a lot of weapons but plays a very controlled game, gets a lot of balls back in play because of her movement and has been a tough out for top players over the last couple of years.

If Williams advances out of that match, she would probably face big server Karolina Pliskova, last year's Wimbledon finalist who hasn't had the best season but plays well on grass. Many American tennis fans will be rooting for Williams to reach the fourth round and face Coco Gauff, who is up to No. 12 in the world coming off her French Open final appearance.

If Williams somehow advanced through all those obstacles and reached the quarterfinals, either of two former Wimbledon champions in Petra Kvitova or Simona Halep would be the likely opponent.

Of course, draws at Grand Slams usually don't go to form. Early-round upsets could open things up considerably. But on paper, Williams did not get the easiest pathway to a deep run.

Here are five other takeaways from the men's and women's draws:

Rafael Nadal might have to survive grass specialists early on

Coming off his 14th French Open title and now men's record 22nd overall Grand Slam, Nadal has apparently been able to treat his chronic foot pain well enough to give it a go at Wimbledon. If Nadal is healthy, he is undoubtedly a threat to win this tournament, which he did in 2008 and 2010. That would give him the first three majors of the season, bringing him to the US Open in August with the chance to win the calendar Grand Slam just like Novak Djokovic attempted to do last year.

Nadal, the No. 2 seed, ended up in the

same half of the draw as last year's finalist, Matteo Berrettini. His quarter includes Felix Auger-Aliassime, who pushed Nadal to five sets in the fourth round at the French Open.

But Nadal could get tested earlier than that. His potential second-round opponent is Sam Querrey, the big serving American who has made the second week at Wimbledon four times and has had some big wins over the likes of then-No. 1 Andy Murray in 2017 and Djokovic in 2016. Another grass-loving American player, Denis Kudla, is a good bet to reach and play Nadal in the third round.

Both top seeds have easy paths to the second week

Djokovic shouldn't have any problem getting past Soonwoo Kwon, then likely Thanasi Kokkinakis and potentially Serbian countryman Miomir Kecmanovic in the third round. It could get a bit trickier in the round of 16 if big serving, 6-foot-11 American Reilly Opelka gets there, but he's surprisingly just 2-6 in his career on grass. It probably won't get interesting for Djokovic, a six-time Wimbledon champion, until the quarterfinals, where he might face 19-year-old Spanish sensation Carlos Alcaraz. Unlike the French Open, Alcaraz comes in just a bit under the radar because he did not play a warm-up tournament on grass and has played only two official matches on the surface. But he's 32-4 this year, and with his touch and willingness to come to the net behind his powerful ground strokes, he projects to be a wonderful grass court player over the course of his career.

Women's No. 1 seed Iga Swiatek, who has won 35 matches in a row, should breeze to the quarterfinals unless she suffers some type of unexpected let-down or injury. We know she can play on grass – she won a junior Wimbledon title and reached the fourth round last year – but she took a well-deserved break after winning the French Open and might have to play her way back

into form a little bit. Fortunately for her, not much trouble appears to be lurking in the early rounds.

Spicy second- and third-round matchups loom on the women's side

Wimbledon didn't end up with many blockbuster first-round matchups, but there could be some fireworks after that. The 2017 champion Garbine Muguruzza, who has had a pretty mediocre year, could be slated to face Sloane Stephens. Bianca Andreescu, the 2019 US Open champion who is working her way back from injuries and a mental health break, could be a real threat to go deep if she can get by No. 17 seed Elena Rybakina in the second round.

Emma Raducanu, the out-of-nowhere US Open winner last year who has struggled with some injuries recently, could face veteran Carolina Garcia.

Americans positioned to make noise

Look out for Frances Tiafoe to make a run after getting a pretty favorable draw. Tiafoe, the 24-year-old from Maryland, has had some decent success on grass. In fact, he turned his year around in 2021 by winning a Challenger Tour event in Nottingham and then upsetting Stefanos Tsitsipas in the first round at Wimbledon. Now up to No. 28 in the world, this draw shook out well for him opening with No. 255-ranked Italian qualifier Andrea Vavassori. The other seed in his section of the draw is Pablo Carreno Busta, who is 1-4 lifetime at Wimbledon. If Tiafoe makes the round of 16, he'd be slated to play a very vulnerable No. 3 seed in Casper Ruud (just 2-4 lifetime on grass) or perhaps veteran David Goffin. It could line up for Tiafoe to make a Slam quarterfinal for the second time in his career.

On the women's side, Alison Risk usually plays her best on grass and made the quarters in 2019. Seeded 28th

here, she should get through to the third round against fellow American Danielle Collins, who has not had a lot of success on grass.

Whoever emerges from that section of the draw would get a decently favorable matchup in the round of 16, possibly against Madison Keys or Raducanu.

Seeds who could be in trouble early

It's a bit of a mystery why Tsitsipas struggles at Wimbledon, but the world No. 6 has three first-round exists in four appearances. If he gets to the third round, he could have to face the dangerous but volatile Nick Kyrgios, whose game is more dangerous on grass than any other surface. He just beat Tsitsipas last week in Germany.

American John Isner, who made a semifinal run in 2018 but has actually not had a lot of great Wimbledon results, could face two-time champion Murray in the second round. Murray isn't what he once was since his hip surgery, but he did make the finals in Stuttgart a couple of weeks ago and could be formidable here.

Carreno Busta, the 16 seed, might well be an underdog to big serving and unpredictable Alexander Bublik in the second round. American Jensen Brooksby, the 29th seed, is really inexperienced on grass and drew a difficult opponent in veteran Mikhail Kukushkin.

On the women's side, No. 2 Annet Kontaveit has been way off form recently and her section of the draw could be blown wide open if she has an early exit.

Barbora Krejickova, the No. 13 seed, has been sidelined for much of this year due to injuries. She could be in trouble in the second round against either Viktorija Golubic, who made the Wimbledon quarterfinals last year, or veteran Andrea Petkovic.

American Jessica Pegula, the No. 8 seed, drew a difficult first-round opponent in Donna Vekic.

Armour

Continued from Page 1C

An athletic scholarship does little good to the woman who finds herself pregnant unexpectedly or as the result of rape or incest.

Meticulous decisions about how to train and when to compete mean little if a female professional athlete can't make the most fundamental decisions about her own body.

The already small window Olympic athletes have shrinks even further if the government, not she, gets to make decisions about her health care.

"The ability to control your own body is crucial to an athlete's success," Joana Wright, the lead attorney for the women who submitted the brief, told USA TODAY Sports.

"Title IX recognized the importance of sports and other activities to full equality for girls and women, and the overturning of Roe will weaken that," Wright said. "People shaped their lives around this right and have never known a world in which this right did not exist."

This goes beyond sports, obviously. The same circumstances that will prevent a basketball player from maximizing her athletic potential are the same that will limit a prospective lawyer or accountant or artist.

But sports made American women, and by extension the whole country, stronger. Better.

Sports gave us confidence and bolstered our self-esteem. Sports taught us to respect our bodies and not waste time with those who didn't. Sports taught us teamwork and cooperation, skills that are as invaluable in the corporate world as they are on the playing field.

Sports showed us what we were capable of, and taught the people who watched us not to underestimate us.

Sports changed how we saw ourselves, and how the rest of society saw us. Young girls and boys now grow up knowing women can do and be anything, because they have watched their mothers, grandmothers, aunts and sisters do it.

And now, in half the country, that's all at risk.

A female athlete who is going to school in, say, California or New York or Illinois can live her life freely, knowing the decisions she makes about what to do with her body are hers and hers alone. She will not have to fear that getting pregnant will derail her hopes and dreams, or that a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy will end her life.

Female athletes at every SEC school, and most of those in the Big Ten, will.

Access to abortion, and maybe even birth control given Justice Clarence Thomas' concurring opinion, will now be several hours away. Even if they can scrape together the funds required, getting there will be arduous if not impossible, considering the minimum age to rent a car is 25.

But the alternative is a pregnancy that will wreak havoc on a young woman's body – ask a woman who's been pregnant to be honest about how traumatic it was – and upend her aspirations.

"In ordering their athletic futures, it is perfectly reasonable, if not necessary, to think about where they're going to be able to achieve the greatest success. And what the athlete amici said was achieving athletic success requires bodily integrity and decisional autonomy," said Wright, a partner at Boies Schiller and Flexner.

We lost more than just Roe on Friday. Across much of the country, we lost the opportunities that Title IX provides, and we will all be the worse for it.

Yankees

Continued from Page 1C

called to the bullpen after Urquidy threw 100 pitches over seven effective innings.

Gone cold

How bad had things gotten for the Yankee offense at that point? One of the loudest ovations of the day Sunday came when a cloud provided a momentary break from the steamy summer sun.

A Yankees hitter didn't reach base until there were two outs in the fourth until Anthony Rizzo worked a walk.

Even some of the Yankees' top hitters weren't immune to a slump with Rizzo, Judge and Torres all going cold against Houston arms.

The Astros subdued the Stadium crowd on the first pitch of the game when Jose Altuve belted a leadoff home run off starter Nestor Cortes. Houston added two more runs in the fourth inning when Mauricio Dubon dunked a two-run single to center.

Cortes allowed three earned runs and struck out seven in five innings of work.

In his last four starts, Cortes has come back down to earth by allowing 12 earned runs in 19 innings (5.68 ERA). His workload became a topic of conversation before the game as the 27-year-old has never thrown more than 93 innings in a major league season.

Manager Aaron Boone said he doesn't have a specific limit this season for Cortes, although the Yankees want to be careful not to overwork their rotation. Boone is considering using a sixth starter for the upcoming series against Oakland with the Yanks in a stretch of 20 straight days without an off day.



Aaron Judge tosses his helmet after hitting a walk-off three-run homer Sunday. BRAD PENNER/USA TODAY SPORTS

History lesson

Saturday marked just the eighth time the Yankees have been no-hit in franchise history, and the first since Billy Wagner closed out Houston's 2003 no-hitter.

Prior to that, the last no-hitter against the Yankees was Hoyt Wilhelm's gem at Baltimore on Sept. 20, 1958.

Following that 2003 relay of six Astros pitchers, then-manager Joe Torre called it the low point of his eight years with the Yanks.

The last time an Astros staff twirled a combined no-hitter in the Bronx, the Yankees were dropped out of first place and endured their manager's wrath in a postgame meeting. That was the evening of June 11, 2003.

When it happened again Saturday, 19 years later, current skipper Aaron Boone couldn't fault the effort of a Yankee club that boasts MLB's best record. Into the late innings, "I still felt like we were absolutely going to get there," said Boone, after three Houston pitchers combined to blank the Yanks in a 3-0 loss.

Contributing: Pete Caldera of North-Jersey.com

THANK YOU SPONSORS! FROM THE NATION'S ATHLETICS DIRECTORS

We look forward to seeing you again in person this year!



nacda.com | @nacda

2021-22 ANNUAL SPONSORS

*Indicates an Annual Sponsor that is also a Convention Sponsor

Anthony Travel | ON LOCATION
Capital One
The Coca-Cola Company
Cushman & Wakefield*
Daktronics, Inc.*
Dimensional Innovations
Fiesta Bowl

Invesco QQQ*
Jostens*
LEARNFIELD*
LVCVA*
MGM Resorts*
NBBJ
Paciolan*

SIDEARM Sports
Sports Business Journal
StubHub*
Sportradar
Sports Video Group (SVG)
United Airlines*
USA Today Sports

2022 CONVENTION SPONSORS

Affinaquest
Athliance
Best Crowd Management
Collegiate Sports Connect
Commerce Bank
East Tennessee State University
eTeam Sponsor

Huron Consulting Group
Icon Source
Jack Porter
Kern Studios
MOGL
Mutual of Omaha
Opendorse

OWNIT | WHOOP
RealResponse
RECUR
Retain Technologies
Satisfi Labs
The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa
U.S. Bank

GOLF

Chun edges Thompson, Lee in PGA

Beth Ann Nichols
Golfweek | USA TODAY Network

BETHESDA, Md. — In the shadow of the nation's capital, the LPGA's most tortured American star suffered heart-break once more.

Lexi Thompson hadn't won on the LPGA in her last 50 starts, and it looked like she might finally collect her second major championship at the KPMG Women's PGA as the women competed at historic Congressional Country Club for the first time.

But once again, Thompson's short game couldn't withstand the pressure. She squandered a two-stroke lead with three to play and, after signing autographs, was too emotional to meet with the media and took off for the parking lot.

Meanwhile, winner In Gee Chun, the woman who made Congressional look like a cakewalk early on, leading by as many as seven on the weekend, was still shaking long after it was over. Chun shot 75-75 in her last two rounds yet still managed to claim her fourth LPGA title and third major.

"I believe if I stick to my game plan, and then I believe I have a chance in the back nine," said Chun, "so I try to hang in there. I'm so happy I made it. My body still shaking, though."

Chun opened with a course-record 64 at the KPMG to storm out to a five-shot lead after the first round. Like Rory McIlroy at the 2011 U.S. Open at Congressional, Chun found herself at 11 under par through two rounds and six clear of the field.

But that near perfect play began to unravel late Saturday and Chun slept on — *only* — a three-stroke lead in pursuit of her third different major title. Chun became an LPGA member after winning the 2015 U.S. Women's Open and then recorded the lowest 72-hole score in major championship history, 21 under, at the 2016 Amundi Evian Championship. She went wire-to-wire that week as well.

Shades of a runaway victory similar to McIlroy's eight-shot romp had covered Congressional until Sunday. Suddenly there was an anything-can-happen vibe with major champions Thompson, Sei Young Kim and Minjee Lee deep in the mix.

Thompson struck fast, birdieing the

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM



In Gee Chun plays her shot from the fourth tee during the final round of the KPMG Women's PGA Championship. SCOTT TAETSCH/USA TODAY SPORTS

first hole to cut the lead to two strokes, and it wasn't long before the American was in command as Chun came unraveled with a front-nine 40.

"First nine holes I got a lot of pressure," said Chun, "so to be honest, I couldn't enjoy to play golf."

Thompson, who last won a major title in 2014, led by two at the turn.

But the ghosts of short misses that have haunted her in pressure-packed moments came to visit on the back nine. A 2-foot par putt on the 14th hole that never had a chance was the most egregious.

With Lee, the 2022 U.S. Women's Open winner, breathing down her neck and the lead cut to one, Thompson poured in a statement birdie putt from just off the green on No. 15 to push her lead to two with three to play.

A tournament that looked like the ending had been written at the halfway mark suddenly had an endless supply of dramatic turns.

After a three-putt on the 17th from 20 feet, Lee stuffed her approach on the 18th to within 2 feet to post the clubhouse lead at 4 under.

Then Thompson made a mess of the

par-5 16th, dropping four strokes with a series of miscues around the green to make bogey and fall into a tie with Chun at 5 under.

On the 18th, Thompson gave herself a 10-foot birdie chance to tie Chun at 5 under but didn't hit a firm putt, leaving it short and right.

She posted a final-round 73 to finish in a share of second with Lee.

As if that weren't frustrating enough, Thompson was hit with a slow-play fine coming off the 18th green. The final group was put on the clock with two holes left.

Thompson's father, Scott, confirmed to Golfweek that the fine was \$2,000.

Chun converted for par on the 18th to end a victory drought that dates back to 2018 and celebrated with Lee, who happens to be her neighbor in Irving, Texas, along with Kim. Chun likes to cook dinner for the talented group; Kim is fond of her macaroni and cheese with tuna.

That home base connection has been valuable for Chun, who has been open about her battles with depression.

After a taking a share of 15th at the Women's Open at Pine Needles, Chun's longtime coach Dr. Won Park noticed

she didn't compete with passion in her next two starts.

Last Sunday, on the drive to the airport in Michigan after the Meijer LPGA Classic, the pair stopped at a Smoothie King, where Park asked Chun if she wanted to retire.

She'd become too much of a perfectionist, he said, too caught up in swing mechanics. Perfectionists don't succeed, he told her. It's the ones who believe in progress and enjoy the challenge that come out on top.

"She kind of got shocked when she heard the word retire from my mouth," Park said. "When she showed up here, she had a whole different attitude."

Chun said she cried last week talking to her older sister, saying it was difficult to stay in the U.S. Her sister told her it was OK to quit. Those tough conversations with her inner circle helped Chun realize what she wanted — to press on.

"I'm just so happy to make win after all that happened," she said, crying. "I just want to keep saying, like, I'm so proud of myself."

"That's why I want to keep saying thanks to everyone who believed in me and never gave up on me."

Schauffele stands strong for clutch win

Adam Schupak
Golfweek | USA TODAY Network

Xander Schauffele delivered the knockout punch when it mattered.

His lob wedge from 105 yards to 3 feet at the final hole Sunday clinched his sixth career PGA Tour title and first individual stroke-play victory since the 2019 Sentry Tournament of Champions.

"It feels really good," he said of converting his first 54-hole lead into victory. "Everyone talks about how hard it is and I only had the Olympics to sort of fall back on having a lead and kind of closing it. I've never done it on the PGA Tour."

Schauffele made the short birdie putt at the last hole to close in 2-under-par 68 at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, Connecticut, for a 72-hole total of 19-under 261 and a two-stroke victory over Sahithi Theegala and J.T. Poston at the Travelers Championship.

Schauffele had tasted victory just a few months ago when he partnered with Patrick Cantlay to win the Zurich Classic of New Orleans, the Tour's lone official team event in late April.



Schauffele

His so-called victory drought also didn't reflect that he won the individual men's gold medal in golf at the Tokyo Olympics last August.

At the Travelers, Schauffele, 28, opened with a pair of 63s, went a career-best 48 holes to start the tournament without a bogey and posted a career-low 54-hole aggregate of 193.

Still, he was winless the four previous times he'd held the 54-hole lead or co-lead and the finale turned into a battle to the finish.

On Sunday, Schauffele played solidly if not as spectacularly as he had the first three days. He made a bogey at the first hole but bounced back with three birdies in his first 11 holes to extend the lead to three and seemed well on his way to victory, even after an errant drive led to a bogey at No. 12.

First, 20-year-old amateur Michael Thorbjornsen made a run at doing something special. He carded an eagle and four birdies in a six-hole stretch beginning at the par-5 sixth hole to climb

within a stroke of Schauffele. He was bidding to become the first amateur to win on the PGA Tour since Phil Mickelson at the 1991 Northern Telecom Open. But the Stanford rising junior who grew up 90 minutes away in Wellesley, Massachusetts, ran out of steam, making bogeys at Nos. 12 and 13, to finish in fourth place.

After making his professional debut at the 2020 Travelers Championship, Theegala, 24, was seeking his first PGA Tour title, too. He started with a birdie at the first and tied Schauffele for the lead with a two-putt birdie from 77 feet at the drivable 15th hole. Theegala surged in front with a 10-foot putt at 17, his third birdie in his last five holes.

But Theegala drove into the left fairway bunker at the last hole and it settled up against the front lip. He failed to escape the sand with his first swing and was left with the same difficult shot.

"I knew it was going to be close to the lip, but not that close," Theegala said of his lie in the bunker. "Never in a million years did I think I would allow myself to blade it. ... I just straight bladed it." He splashed out with his third shot

and wedged to 12 feet. Theegala's putt lipped out and he made double bogey to shoot 67 and slip into a tie with Poston with a 72-hole total of 263.

Playing one group behind, Schauffele watched Theegala's disaster play out in front of him and knew he only needed a par to win.

The return to the winner's circle comes just days after Schauffele reaffirmed his commitment to play on the PGA Tour at a time when several players have jumped ship to join LIV Golf and the promise of extravagant guaranteed money.

"I see myself right now trying to find a way to keep guys on the Tour, versus being one to bail. I'm very happy with what's going on with the Tour, for the most part," Schauffele said earlier last week on CBS Sports Radio's Zach Gelb Show. "I feel like there's enough on this Tour and enough talent on this Tour to make it the best in the world and keep it the best. ... I'm 28 years old, and I want to win majors and PGA Tour events. ..."

"Actions speak louder than words. And so, right now, my actions are to stay on the Tour."

Harrington holds off Stricker at US Senior Open

Todd Kelly
Golfweek | USA TODAY Network

Padraig Harrington started the final round of the U.S. Senior Open with a five-shot lead Sunday. He stretched the lead to six with a birdie on the eighth hole.

That's when Steve Stricker, whose U.S. squad demolished Harrington's team at the 2021 Ryder Cup, got to work.

Stricker, who already has one senior major this year, made birdies on Nos. 8, 9, 12, 14, 17 and 18 to finish at 9 under, one shot off the lead. He was three holes ahead of Harrington, who was sputter-

ing along and had back-to-back bogeys on 10 and 11 but got a much-needed birdie on the 15th hole to get to 10 under.

From there, Harrington parred his way home, securing a one-shot win and capturing his first senior major on the PGA Tour Championships.

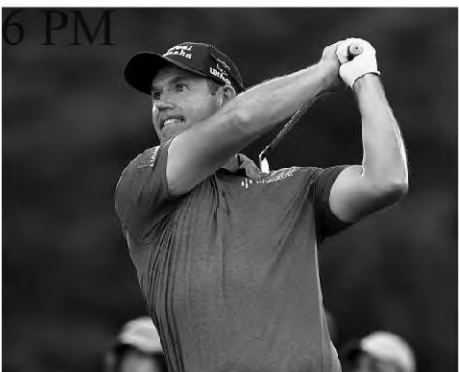
Harrington's last win came five years, eight months and three days ago as he last hoisted a trophy at the 2016 Portugal Masters on the DP World Tour.

He now has four professional majors, adding this U.S. Senior Open to his two British Open Championships (2007, 2008) as well as the 2008 PGA Championship.

Harrington is the first international winner of the U.S. Senior Open since Colin Montgomerie did it in 2014.

Stricker shot the best round of the day Sunday with a 6-under 65 and finished solo second. Mark Hensby was solo third at 4 under.

Champions tour rookie Rob Labritz, who probably had the most fun this week, finished at 3 under in a three-way tie for fourth. He was playing just his 12th Champions event and second USGA event. The last USGA event Labritz played was in 1988. He was medalist honors at PGA Tour Champions Q-School last December.



Padraig Harrington claimed his first senior major, the U.S. Senior Open, on Sunday. SAM GREENWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Ole Miss wins its first title

Nick Suss
Mississippi Clarion Ledger | USA TODAY Network

OMAHA, Neb. – Ole Miss completed its miracle turnaround Sunday, defeating Oklahoma 4-2 in the College World Series finals to secure the first national baseball championship in program history.

After going down 2-1 in the seventh inning, Ole Miss fired back with three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning thanks to an RBI single from shortstop Jacob Gonzalez and two wild pitches from Oklahoma's All-American closer Trevin Michael.

The Rebels were the last team selected with an at-large bid to compete in the NCAA Tournament. After starting 7-14 in Southeastern Conference play, the Rebels end their season winning 18 of their final 22 games, including sweeps in the Coral Gables regional and Hattiesburg super regional and a 5-1 record at the College World Series.

Ole Miss' eighth-inning rally began with a one-out single from nine-hole hitter TJ McCants against Oklahoma starter Cade Horton. The single turned the lineup over and chased Horton, bringing up leadoff hitter Justin Bench, who perfectly executed a hit-and-run to put runners on the corners for Gonzalez.

Gonzalez, who hit a solo home run in the sixth inning to give the Rebels' their first run, ripped the first pitch he saw past the first baseman to tie the score. A pair of wild pitches from Michael scored Bench and Gonzalez, giving the Rebels the go-ahead runs.

Freshman left-hander Hunter Elliott started and impressed for Ole Miss, allowing two runs on three hits in 6 2/3 innings. Closer Brandon Johnson earned the save and senior left-hander John Gaddis was the pitcher of record for 1 1/3 innings of scoreless relief.

Replay review turns game around

For a brief moment in the top of the sixth inning, Oklahoma seized the lead. The Sooners put runners on first and third with one out and turned the lineup



Ole Miss celebrates Sunday after clinching the College World Series national championship. DYLAN WIDGER/USA TODAY SPORTS

over to leadoff hitter John Spikerman. Spikerman nubbed a bunt toward the mound and reached safely, scoring Jackson Nicklaus from third and advancing to second on a throwing error. But Bianco challenged the play for interference at first base by Spikerman, who he deemed interfered with first baseman Tim Elko's ability to catch Elliott's throw. After a review, the umpires ruled Spikerman out at first and made Nicklaus return to third base.

One pitch later, Oklahoma shortstop Peyton Graham flied out to right field to end the Sooners' threat and keep the score at 0-0 into the bottom of the sixth inning.

Seventh inning turns south

Elliott induced two quick outs to start the top of the seventh inning but couldn't get the third. He gave up a double and a four-pitch walk, followed by a high blooper into shallow left field that Graham and Gonzalez couldn't find in the sun, falling for an RBI double.

The double chased Elliott, bringing in Saturday's hero Mason Nichols in relief. Nichols didn't have the same success he did the day before, hitting one batter

and walking the next on four pitches to give Oklahoma a 2-1 lead.

Nichols' hit-by-pitch almost let the Rebels escape the inning; Bianco challenged the call to see if Oklahoma's Sebastian Orduno leaned in. Had the call been overturned, the inning would've ended. Instead, the call stood and Oklahoma took the lead in its next plate appearance.

Nichols was quickly replaced by Gaddis, who struck out Spikerman to strand the bases loaded.

Jacob Gonzalez wakes up

Gonzalez came into Sunday batting 0-for-12 in his last three games and 3-for-22 in the College World Series. The reigning national freshman of the year and projected 2023 first-round pick rediscovered his swing at the right time.

His sixth-inning home run gave the Rebels their first lead, traveling 393 feet up the right-center field bleachers. It was his 18th home run of the year, tying him for fourth place on the Ole Miss single-season home run list.

His RBI single in the eighth inning gave him his first three-hit day since May 20.

Lyles edges Knighton for US 200 title

The Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. – Noah Lyles pulled in front of teenage sensation Erriyon Knighton at the finish to win the 200 meters at the U.S. track and field championships Sunday.

"I do what it takes to win," proclaimed Lyles, who cheekily pointed to Knighton as he hit the tape in 19.67 seconds.

Lyles won the 200 at the 2019 world championships in Doha and the bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics last summer. He'll be challenged again by Knighton in the worlds next month in Eugene.

"Job not finished," said Knighton, just 18.

Temperatures in the mid-90s greeted athletes for the final day of the competition at Hayward Field. Events moved to earlier in the day because of the heat.

The top three in each event will be on the U.S. team for the world championships, given they have met the required performance standard.

Olympic gold medalist Athing Mu was challenged the last 100 meters by Ajee Wilson but pushed to finish first in the 800 in 1:57.16.

"It was a fast field, we were all together kind of throughout the whole race. I felt like we'd still be together the last 100, I just wanted to try my best to finish strong," Mu said. "Ajee was right on me, I had to push a little harder to get to the line."

Sha'Carri Richardson did not qualify for Sunday's 200 final, her only remaining chance to make the U.S. team for the worlds. Her time in the semifinal, 22.47 seconds, put her out of contention. She did not comment to reporters afterward.

Hayward Field, on the University of Oregon campus, underwent \$200 million in renovations to host the worlds, track and field's biggest event outside of the Olympics. It is the first time that the world championships will be held on American soil.

WEATHER

WEATHER ONLINE
USATODAY.COM

The weather changes. Stay up-to-date, 24/7. Download our free app

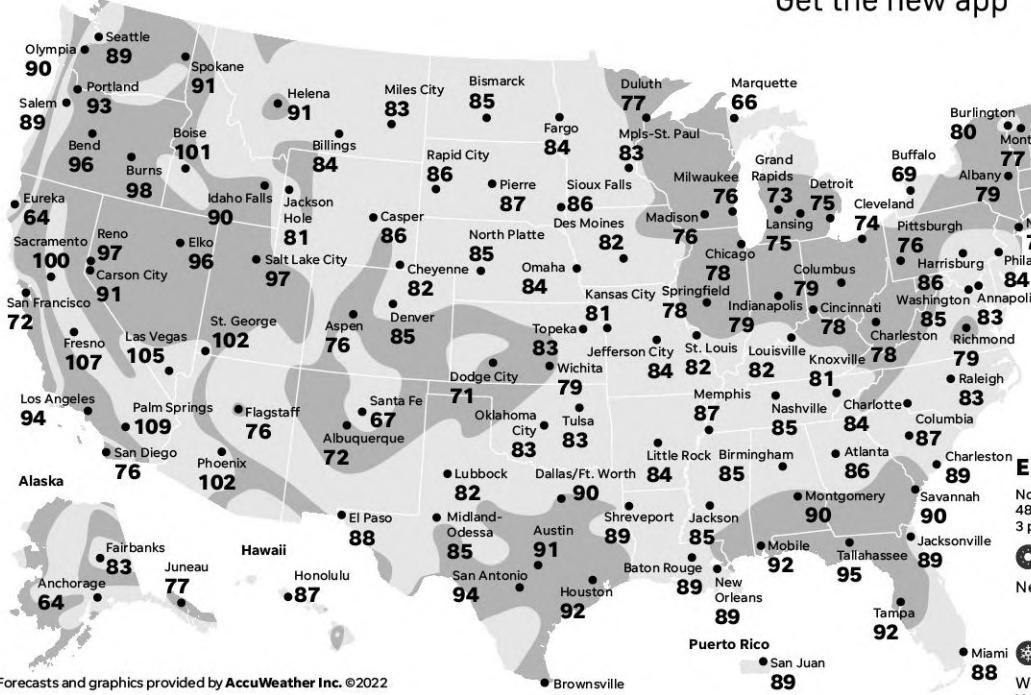
TODAY'S FORECAST

A cold front will continue eastward today, bringing showers and heavy thunderstorms from **Maine** to **Texas**. Although widespread severe weather is not anticipated, any storm within this corridor could produce gusty winds, as well as downpours heavy enough to cause incidents of flooding.

Behind the front, cooler and more refreshing air will spill south-eastward from the **North Central** states and into the **Ohio Valley** and interior **Northeast**.

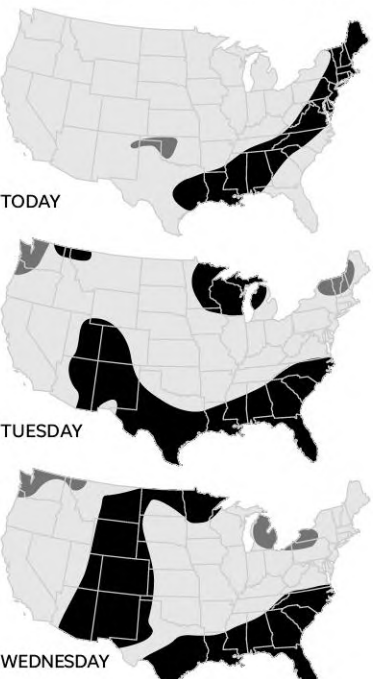
Monsoon thunderstorms are forecast to persist across **Arizona**, **New Mexico** and **Colorado**, heightening the risk of flash flooding and debris flow, but also providing drought relief. Much of the rest of the **West** can expect dry and hot weather.

TODAY'S HIGH TEMPERATURES



PRECIPITATION FORECAST

● T-storms ● Rain ○ Snow ● Ice/mix



EXTREMES
Note: For contiguous 48 states through 3 p.m. ET yesterday
HOTTEST: 106°
Needles, Calif.
COLDEST: 28°
West Yellowstone, Mont.

TOP TRAVEL CITIES

Air quality index (AQI)

ATLANTA	BALTIMORE	BOSTON	CHARLOTTE	CHICAGO	DALLAS/FT. WORTH	DENVER	DETROIT	HONOLULU	HOUSTON	LAS VEGAS	LOS ANGELES
MON T-storms 86/71	MON Heavy t-storms 86/61	MON T-storms 76/62	MON T-storms 84/67	MON Mostly sunny 78/60	MON A.P.M. t-storm 90/73	MON Stray t-storm 85/58	MON Not as warm 75/53	MON Showers 87/74	MON T-storms 92/75	MON Mostly sunny 105/85	MON Sunny, hot 94/68
TUE Stray t-storm 81/71	TUE Sunny, nice 80/61	TUE Partly sunny 76/62	TUE T-storm 82/66	TUE Mostly sunny 83/65	TUE Mostly cloudy 91/72	TUE Very warm 93/64	TUE Plenty of sun 80/62	TUE Breezy 86/74	TUE T-storm 89/75	TUE Mostly sunny 106/85	TUE Sunny, hot 91/68
WED T-show-er 83/72	WED Mostly sunny 87/64	WED Mostly sunny 80/62	WED T-show-er 84/68	WED Sunny, nice 85/68	WED Mostly sunny 93/74	WED Mostly sunny 92/62	WED T-show-er 84/63	WED Showers 87/73	WED T-show-ers 85/76	WED Mostly sunny 105/84	WED Mostly sunny 88/67
AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Moderate	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Moderate	AQI Moderate	AQI Moderate
MIAMI	MPLS.-ST. PAUL	NEW ORLEANS	NEW YORK	ORLANDO	PHILADELPHIA	PHOENIX	SALT LAKE CITY	SAN DIEGO	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	WASHINGTON
MON Stray t-storm 88/78	MON Warmer 83/62	MON Heavy t-storm 89/79	MON T-storms 79/63	MON Stray t-storm 91/74	MON T-storms 84/65	MON Stray t-storm 102/87	MON Sunny, hot 77/72	MON Fog, then sun 76/66	MON Breezy 72/56	MON Very warm 89/57	MON Heavy t-storms 85/65
TUE Stray t-storm 89/77	TUE Heavy t-storm 85/63	TUE T-storms 90/78	TUE Mostly sunny 77/64	TUE Stray t-storm 91/74	TUE Mostly sunny 80/63	TUE Very warm 107/90	TUE Hot 100/73	TUE Fog to sun 77/68	TUE Breezy 76/56	TUE Breezy, cooler 71/56	TUE Mostly sunny 81/65
WED A.P.M. t-storm 88/79	WED Windy 90/75	WED T-storms 87/77	WED Mostly sunny 80/66	WED Stray t-storm 92/73	WED Mostly sunny 84/67	WED Stray t-storm 106/88	WED Very warm 94/69	WED Partly sunny 76/64	WED Breezy 70/55	WED An A.M. shower 67/55	WED Mostly sunny 85/69
AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Moderate	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Unhealthy s/g	AQI Good	AQI Good	AQI Moderate	AQI Moderate	AQI Good

c Cloudy f Fog i Ice r Rain sf Snowflurries sn Snow w Windy dr Drizzle h Haze pc Partly cloudy s Sunny sh Showers t Thunderstorms

U.S. CITIES

AKRON, OHIO	CINCINNATI, OHIO	COLORADO SPRINGS, CO.	COLUMBIA, S.C.	COLUMBUS, OHIO	AMARILLO, TEXAS	ANCHORAGE, ALASKA	ASPEN, COLO.	ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.	AUGUSTA, GA.	AUSTIN, TEXAS	BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.	BATON ROUGE, LA.	BILLINGS, MONT.	BIRMINGHAM, ALA.	BISMARCK, N.D.	BOISE, IDAHO	BUFFALO, N.Y.	BURLINGTON, VT.	CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA	CHARLESTON, S.C.	CHARLESTON, W.VA.	CHEYENNE, WYO.
TODAY 78/53s	TODAY 78/53s	TODAY 78/54t	TODAY 87/71t	TODAY 79/55s	TODAY 94/66s	TODAY 64/52pc	TODAY 76/45t	TODAY 76/67t	TODAY 89/70t	TODAY 91/72t	TODAY 105/75s	TODAY 89/74t	TODAY 84/58s	TODAY 85/69t	TODAY 85/53s	TODAY 101/69s	TODAY 69/52t	TODAY 79/57s	TODAY 89/72s	TODAY 88/73t	TODAY 78/53s	TODAY 82/53t
TUE 77/58s	TUE 77/58s	TUE 85/58pc	TUE 80/69t	TUE 80/57s	TUE 90/76pc	TUE 70/56pc	TUE 78/48t	TUE 76/65s	TUE 82/67t	TUE 91/71t	TUE 103/75s	TUE 88/74t	TUE 86/62c	TUE 85/71t	TUE 82/60s	TUE 97/58s	TUE 71/58s	TUE 74/57pc	TUE 82/61c	TUE 83/73t	TUE 77/56pc	TUE 89/60pc

DALLAS, TEXAS	DENVER, COLO.	DETROIT, MICH.	HOUSTON, TEXAS	KANSAS CITY, MO.	KANSAS CITY, KAN.	LAREDO, TEXAS	LINCOLN, NEB.	LITTLE ROCK, ARK.	LONG BEACH, CALIF.	LOUISVILLE, KY.	LUBBOCK, TEXAS	MADISON, WIS.	MANCHESTER, N.H.	MEMPHIS, TENN.	MILWAUKEE, WIS.	MOBILE, ALA.	MONTECALM, CALIF.	MONTGOMERY, ALA.	MYRTLE BEACH, S.C.
TODAY 88/70t	TODAY 77/61t	TODAY 77/59s	TODAY 89/75t	TODAY 87/64s	TODAY 84/65s	TODAY 82/67c	TODAY 88/70t	TODAY 82/67c	TODAY 88/71pc	TODAY 82/62s	TODAY 88/65s	TODAY 85/65pc	TODAY 82/65s	TODAY 87/68t	TODAY 84/65pc	TODAY 91/76t	TODAY 96/57s	TODAY 89/71s	TODAY 89/72t
TUE 88/70t	TUE 77/59s	TUE 77/59s	TUE 89/75t	TUE 87/64s	TUE 84/65s	TUE 82/67c	TUE 88/70t	TUE 82/67c	TUE 88/71pc	TUE 82/62s	TUE 88/65s	TUE 85/65pc	TUE 82/65s	TUE 87/68t	TUE 84/65pc	TUE 91/76t	TUE 96/57s	TUE 89/71s	TUE 89/72t

NEWARK, N.J.	NEW HAVEN, CONN.	NORFOLK, VA.	OAKLAND, CALIF.	OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.	OMAHA, NEB.	PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.	PENSACOLA, FLA.	PIERRE, S.D.	PITTSBURGH, PA.	PORTLAND, MAINE	PORTLAND, ORE.	PROVIDENCE, R.I.	RALEIGH, N.C.	RAPID CITY, S.D.	RENO, NEV.	RICHMOND, VA.	ROCHESTER, N.Y.	SACRAMENTO, CALIF.	SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	SAN JOSE, CALIF.	SANTA FE, N.M.
TODAY 86/65t	TODAY 86/65t	TODAY 76/66c	TODAY 73/55s	TODAY 83/63s	TODAY 84/63pc	TODAY 109/85s	TODAY 87/66t	TODAY 89/63s	TODAY 76/52s	TODAY 71/57t	TODAY 93/59s	TODAY 75/61t	TODAY 83/67t	TODAY 86/54s	TODAY 97/62s	TODAY 79/64t	TODAY 71/62s	TODAY 96/57s	TODAY 94/75t	TODAY 86/60s	TODAY 67/53t
TUE 83/63s	TUE 83/63s	TUE 76/66c	TUE 74/55s	TUE 85/61pc	TUE 87/67s	TUE 109/85pc	TUE 88/78t	TUE 89/63s	TUE 77/54s	TUE 75/54s	TUE 79/56s	TUE 80/58pc	TUE 83/67t	TUE 88/61s	TUE 93/58s	TUE 81/63c	TUE 73/55s	TUE 96/57s	TUE 87/77t	TUE 85/57s	TUE 78/55t

SARASOTA, FLA.	SAVANNAH, GA.	SCOTTSDALE, ARIZ.	SHREVEPORT, LA.	SIoux FALLS, S.D.	SOUTH BEND, IND.	SPOKANE, WASH.	SPRINGFIELD, MO.	SPRINGFIELD, ILL.	ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.	SYRACUSE, N.Y.	TALLAHASSEE, FLA.	TAMPA, FLA.	TOLEDO, OHIO	TOPEKA, KAN.	TUCSON, ARIZ.	TUPELO, MISS.	TULSA, OKLA.	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.	WICHITA, KAN.	WILMINGTON, DEL.	WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.	WORCESTER, MASS.
TODAY 80/72s	TODAY 88/74t	TODAY 101/85t	TODAY 89/69t	TODAY 86/64s	TODAY 82/62s	TODAY 83/56w	TODAY 82/60s	TODAY 83/61s	TODAY 86/67s	TODAY 91/77t	TODAY 72/53s	TODAY 95/74c	TODAY 92/77t	TODAY 78/52s	TODAY 83/61pc	TODAY 96/80t	TODAY 88/66t	TODAY 86/64s	TODAY 86/70t	TODAY 79/60c	TODAY 61/61t	TODAY 80/65t	TODAY 71/57t
TUE 88/74t	TUE 88/74t	TUE 105/88s	TUE 92/69pc	TUE 89/64s	TUE 82/62s	TUE 83/56w	TUE 82/60s	TUE 83/61s	TUE 86/67s	TUE 92/78t	TUE 74/56s	TUE 92/73t	TUE 92/77t	TUE 83/60s	TUE 87/66s	TUE 99/82pc	TUE 90/69pc	TUE 86/64s	TUE 77/66c	TUE 96/63s	TUE 81/65c	TUE 81/65c	TUE 74/57s

WORLD CITIES

BEIJING	BUENOS AIRES	CANCUN, MEX	DUBAI, UAE	FRANKFURT	HONG KONG	ISTANBUL	JERUSALEM	JOHANNESBURG	LONDON	MEXICO CITY	MONTREAL	MOSCOW	MUMBAI, INDIA	PARIS	RIO DE JANEIRO	ROME	SEOUL	SINGAPORE	SYDNEY	TORONTO	TOKYO
TODAY 81/69sh	TODAY 53/48pc	TODAY 88/76t	TODAY 110/91s	TODAY 76/56t	TODAY 90/83sh	TODAY 82/70c	TODAY 84/66s	TODAY 58/40s	TODAY 66/50sh	TODAY 70/57t	TODAY 75/58w	TODAY 90/68s	TODAY 86/81t	TODAY 73/54c	TODAY 69/61pc	TODAY 93/73w	TODAY 79/75t	TODAY 87/78t	TODAY 60/47w	TODAY 69/52c	TODAY 89/77pc
TUE 81/68pc	TUE 60/49pc	TUE 88/79t	TUE 105/91s	TUE 81/63pc	TUE 91/83t	TUE 80/69t	TUE 84/66s	TUE 69/57pc	TUE 66/57pc	TUE 70/56t	TUE 73/58pc	TUE 85/66s	TUE 87/81t	TUE 75/56pc	TUE 75/65h	TUE 93/77pc	TUE 77/74t	TUE 87/78t	TUE 59/48t	TUE 78/58s	TUE 89/78h

Djokovic stance may cost Slam record



Dan Wolken
Columnist
USA TODAY

There have been strange periods throughout the tennis career of Novak Djokovic where his motivation waxed and waned, his body didn't cooperate or his temper got him thrown out of a US Open he would have been heavily favored to win. But never has Djokovic tried to navigate as complicated a moment as the 2022 season has brought upon him.

Despite still being considered the best player in the world and the favorite heading into Wimbledon, which begins Monday, he has lost the world No. 1 ranking and will slip further regardless of what he does over the next two weeks (more on that in a moment). After finally tying Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal with 20 major titles last July and having a shot to win the calendar Grand Slam, he surprisingly finds himself now two behind Nadal. And unless the U.S. government changes its policy barring people who haven't had a COVID-19 vaccination from entering the country, Djokovic will not be in New York for the US Open this year or perhaps ever again.

"I'm aware of that, and that is an extra motivation to do well here," Djokovic said Saturday in his pre-Wimbledon news conference. "So hopefully I can have a very good tournament as I have done in the last three editions and then I'll just have to wait and see. I'd love to go to the States, but as of today that's not possible and there's not much I can do anymore. It's really up to the U.S. government to make a decision whether they allow unvaccinated people to go into the country."

It is abundantly clear that Djokovic has no intention of getting vaccinated and is prepared to skip half the Grand Slams (and several other significant tournaments) if the U.S. and Australia continue to have strict vaccine mandates for visitors entering their borders.

On one hand, his adherence to principle is admirable. After believing that he had an exemption to play the Australian Open in January, only to get deported



Novak Djokovic is currently No. 3 behind Daniil Medvedev and Alexander Zverev in the world rankings, which are calculated on a rolling 12-month total.
SUSAN MULLANE/
USA TODAY
SPORTS

But it will be difficult for Djokovic to maintain his status as one of the sport's leading figures if he's being relegated to a handful of events a year in Europe and the Middle East – not to mention the impact on his tennis.

After the Australia debacle, it was a real struggle for Djokovic to get back into form. He only started playing up to his standards at the Italian Open in May, making it seem like he was ready for the rigor of the French Open. But in his quarterfinal matchup against Nadal, he was strangely flat and did not seem to have the same competitive stamina he did a year earlier necessarily to outlast his rival on clay.

Djokovic's coach Goran Ivanisevic told Tennis Majors after the French Open it was "incomprehensible" the way he played after winning the second set.

"It was like he lacked energy and like he did not believe sufficiently that he could win," Ivanisevic said. "You cannot allow that to yourself against Rafa."

Djokovic hasn't played an official match since, which not unusual for him leading up to Wimbledon. He noted Saturday that he's had a lot of "success with adapting quickly to the surface," and the reality is that his experience gives him a huge advantage over a lot of the younger contenders who haven't quite figured out grass yet.

Also in Djokovic's favor is a relatively easy draw until the quarterfinals and not having to face either Nadal or Matteo Berrettini, who has become a stand-out player on grass, until the final.

For those reasons, he's a heavy favorite to win his 21st Grand Slam title and get back within one of Nadal for the all-time record.

But after that, unless governments change their rules, Djokovic might be forced to disappear from the majors until next year's French Open. At a time when the all-time Grand Slam race should be at the peak of its competitiveness, his vaccine status might render it a moot point.

That's not good for tennis, nor his legacy, nor the legitimacy of the history books. But as he made clear once again before this Wimbledon begins, Djokovic's mind is made up – for better or worse.

after a week-long political saga, Djokovic understands the consequences of being unvaccinated and is willing to live with them regardless of what it means for his career. On the other hand, it is absolutely bizarre that a 35-year-old tennis player with an opportunity to rewrite all the significant records in his sport would squander some of his last, best chances to win these tournaments because he won't get the same safe, effective shot as 5 billion people around the world.

As COVID-19 becomes more of an endemic virus, restrictions have been relaxed in many places. There is now no requirement, for instance, to show a negative test before entering the U.S., so at some point perhaps countries will also drop vaccine requirements. But maybe they won't, which would effectively render Djokovic as a part-time player in a sport he was dominating as recently as last year.

It is appropriate that Djokovic is seeded No. 1 given that he's won the last three editions of the tournament and has six Wimbledon titles overall – just one shy of Pete Sampras and two behind Federer.

But Djokovic is actually No. 3 behind

Daniil Medvedev and Alexander Zverev in the world rankings, which are calculated on a rolling 12-month total, largely because he's entered only six tournaments this year and was not allowed to play some big events that offer lots of ranking points like the Australian Open plus the two big American spring tournaments in Indian Wells and Miami.

Djokovic is also poised to lose the 2,000 points he won for last year's Wimbledon title, as the ATP Tour stripped the tournament of ranking points as punishment for its unilateral decision to ban Russian and Belarusian players from entering due to the war in Ukraine. If Djokovic can't come to North America for the hardcourt swing and the US Open due to the vaccine requirements, he will almost certainly drop out of the top 10 this summer, even if he wins Wimbledon.

Ranking points, as he said Saturday, are not Djokovic's priority at this stage of his career. He already holds the record for most weeks at No. 1, which isn't in danger of being broken by any of his contemporaries, and he'll still be considered the best in the world as long as he performs to his capability at the tournaments he is allowed to enter.

Nassib to make donation for Pride Month

Cale Clinton
USA TODAY

Carl Nassib, the NFL's first active openly gay player, announced a charitable partnership with The Trevor Project in a post commemorating Pride Month this Sunday via Instagram.

Nassib will be making a donation match up to \$100,000.

"We're so grateful to Carl for his public commitment to supporting LGBTQ youth mental health," said Trevor Project CEO Amit Paley. "Carl has inspired others to live their own truth, donate to The Trevor Project's life-saving mission, and to accept and support the LGBTQ people in their lives."

The Trevor Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to suicide prevention and mental health awareness for LGBTQ youth. According to the 2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Men-

tal Health, 45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide over the course of the last year.

The partnership comes just over a year after Nassib came out as gay, becoming the first active NFL player to publicly come out. His announcement posted on Instagram coincides with a previous \$100,000 donation to The Trevor Project, which the NFL and Las Vegas Raiders both matched.

"For someone like me, who has been so lucky and cherishes every day, it brings me incredible sadness to think that our LGBTQ youth are at such an elevated risk for suicide," said Nassib in his coming-out post last June. "I feel an immense responsibility to help in any way I can – and you can too."

Following Nassib's coming out, the Trevor Project's website traffic more than tripled, mostly comprised of first-time visitors.



Defensive end Carl Nassib will make another donation to The Trevor Project. JOHN BAZEMORE/AP



"It was a really cool way to engage people who might not have known about us before," said Kevin Wong, vice president of communications at The Trevor Project.

"We have to remember the impact of something like that. If they don't know about us, or if they maybe haven't really thought about supporting the LGBTQ people in our lives, maybe they think twice about that. Maybe they're better equipped to handle conversation around mental health or suicide and preventing suicide in their friends and family circles."

Trevor Project offers free 24/7 crisis services operated by highly trained crisis counselors. According to Wong, the crisis line serviced over 200,000 LGBTQ+ youth last year.

"From our very first conversations with Carl, and every conversation since, he has never once wanted any of the attention on him," said Wong. "He wants to shine a spotlight on the Trevor Project. That's such a pure thing."


Match-eligible donations can be made to TRVR.org/CarlMatch.

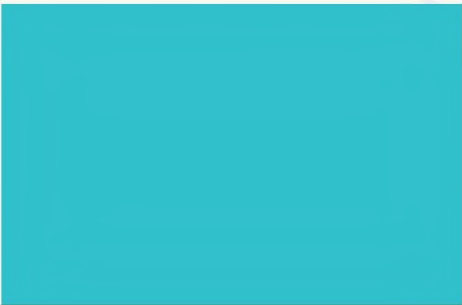



Classic or modern, but always iconic.

Find your favorite products from our collection and never go out of style.

Shop at shop.usatoday.com





ROE V. WADE

OVERTURNED

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/03/2023 4:25:26 PM

SPLIT VOTE: Supreme Court ruling frees states to outlaw abortion

AMERICA DIVIDED: Jubilation and anger as emotions run high

NOT OVER: Abortion battle will continue in state legislatures, courts



Anti-abortion demonstrators in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington celebrate Friday as the court released its decision upholding a Mississippi ban on abortions after 15 weeks. The decision by default overturns Roe v. Wade, eliminating the constitutional right to an abortion. JOSH MORGAN/USA TODAY

John Fritze USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The Supreme Court ruled Friday that Americans no longer have a constitutional right to abortion, a watershed decision that overturns Roe v. Wade and erases a reproductive right the high court established nearly five decades ago. ● In the most closely watched and controversial case to arrive at the Supreme Court in years, a majority of the justices – all of whom were appointed by Republican presidents – held that the right to end a pregnancy was not found in the text of the Constitution nor the nation’s history. The decision set off a flurry of reactions from political leaders on the right and left, including President Joe Biden and members of Congress.

Associate Justice Samuel Alito wrote the opinion for a 6-3 majority upholding a Mississippi ban on most abortions after 15 weeks. There were five votes to overturn Roe v. Wade, because Chief Justice John Roberts wrote he would not have gone so far as to upend one of the court’s most recognized precedents. The court’s liberal justices dissented.

“Roe was egregiously wrong from the start,” Alito wrote for the majority. “Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences.

“It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people’s elected representatives.”

The decision instantly shifts the focus of one of the nation’s most divisive debates to state capitols: Republican lawmakers are set to ban abortion in about half the states while Democratic-led states are likely to reinforce



Protesters gathered outside the Supreme Court early Friday as Americans awaited a decision that would determine the future of reproductive rights in the United States. JACK GRUBER/USA TODAY

See ROE V. WADE, Page 2D

6 JUSTICES VOTED TO UPHOLD MISSISSIPPI RESTRICTIONS, WHILE 3 DISSENTED

								
Samuel Alito	Clarence Thomas	John Roberts	Neil Gorsuch	Brett Kavanaugh	Amy Coney Barrett	Stephen Breyer	Sonia Sotomayor	Elena Kagan

AMERICA REACTS

Some herald ‘new era’ as others mourn a ‘dark day’

Grace Hauck, Christine Fernando, Chris Kenning and Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

Moments after the Supreme Court ruled Americans no longer have a constitutional right to abortion, staff at Hope Clinic For Women in southern Illinois called an emergency meeting.

“When I saw the decision, my heart dropped below my stomach,” said Hanz Dismer, education and research coordinator at the clinic in Granite City, Illinois, about 10 minutes from Missouri, where nearly all abortions are now illegal.

“I thought I was going to throw up. But I didn’t. I knew this was gonna happen,” Dismer told USA TODAY. “We have

See REACTION, Page 3D

Thomas flags other laws

He calls for high court to “reconsider” same-sex marriage, contraception. 2D

What’s next?

Abortion will remain divisive issue in states and courtrooms. 3D

Access across US

These maps show how access to abortion has changed. 6D

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Thomas: Court should end other rights

No other justice embraces suggestion to revisit opinions on contraception, same-sex marriage

John Fritze and Marina Pitojsky
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Associate Justice Clarence Thomas called on the Supreme Court to “reconsider” other rights established by the high court in the wake of its decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, including access to contraception and gay marriage, in an opinion that sparked an outcry on the left.

Thomas’ concurring opinion – which no other member of the court joined – tracks with an argument abortion rights groups had made for months leading up to the court’s blockbuster abortion decision: a ruling that the Constitution doesn’t protect a right to an abortion would jeopardize other rights the court established under the 14th Amendment.

“In future cases, we should reconsider all of this court’s substantive due process precedents, including Griswold, Lawrence, and Obergefell,” Thomas wrote, referring to landmark opinions that blocked states from banning contraception, sex by same-sex couples and gay marriage. “After overruling these demonstrably erroneous decisions, the question would remain whether other

constitutional provisions guarantee the myriad rights that our substantive due process cases have generated.”

The Constitution doesn’t explicitly guarantee a right to abortion, but a 7-2 majority in Roe v. Wade held that the 14th Amendment’s protection of “liberty” includes the right to end a pregnancy.

Several of the justices in Roe drew on another landmark opinion decided eight years earlier that legalized contraception for married couples.

The court overturned Roe v. Wade on Friday, a major decision that will allow individual states to decide whether to ban the procedure. The court noted that abortion is not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution. Abortion rights advocates point out the same is true for many other rights that millions of Americans take for granted today.

In Griswold v. Connecticut, the Supreme Court invalidated a law that forbid contraception, finding the Bill of Rights created “zones of privacy” for married couples. Decades later, in 2015, the court relied on a similar theory in

Obergefell v. Hodges that legalized same-sex marriage nationally and a 2003 ruling in Lawrence v. Texas that invalidated state prohibitions on sodomy. Those rights were based on a similar approach to the Constitution, that the 14th Amendment provides for some rights – such as privacy – that are not explicitly stated in the document.

Thomas didn’t mention another major decision based on the same approach, a landmark civil rights ruling in 1967 that invalidated laws banning interracial marriage. Though Thomas, who is married to a white woman, didn’t cite that case, several of his colleagues did. Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who joined the majority’s opinion, listed it among the precedents he said were not jeopardized by the abortion decision.

“I emphasize what the court today states: Overruling Roe does not mean the overruling of those precedents, and does not threaten or cast doubt on those precedents,” Kavanaugh wrote.

The court’s liberal justices also drew attention to that decision in a dissent, noting that the 14th Amendment’s drafters did not likely think it would give “Black and white people a right to marry each other. To the contrary, contemporaneous practice deemed that act quite as unprotected as abortion.”

The Constitution, the court’s liberal

wing wrote, “does not freeze for all time the original view of what those rights guarantee, or how they apply.”

Jim Obergefell, who was the lead plaintiff in Obergefell v. Hodges and is running for a seat in the Ohio legislature, questioned Thomas’ omission.

“For Justice Thomas to completely omit Loving v. Virginia, in my mind, is quite telling,” Obergefell told MSNBC said. “That affects him personally.”

Obergefell told the Cincinnati Enquirer, part of the USA TODAY Network, that the abortion ruling calls on opponents of same-sex marriage to “start their engines and to come after those rights.”

It’s notable that Thomas, perhaps the court’s most conservative justice, wrote alone to argue for revisiting other rights. The court’s majority opinion, written by Associate Justice Samuel Alito, another conservative, also shot down the idea.

Alito draws a distinction between abortion and other rights because, he says, abortion involves the life or potential life of a fetus or embryo.

“And to ensure that our decision is not misunderstood or mischaracterized, we emphasize that our decision concerns the constitutional right to abortion and no other right,” Alito wrote. “Nothing in this opinion should be understood to cast doubt on precedents that do not concern abortion.”

Roe v. Wade

Continued from Page 1D

protections for the procedure. Access to abortion, in other words, will depend almost entirely on where a person lives.

“After today, young women will come of age with fewer rights than their mothers and grandmothers had,” the court’s three liberals wrote in the dissent. “The majority accomplishes that result without so much as considering how women have relied on the right to choose or what it means to take that right away.”

The decision will also play into the November midterm elections, in which control of Congress is up for grabs, though there are signs it may not be as salient for voters as other issues, such as inflation. In a USA TODAY/Suffolk University Poll taken before the decision, even those Americans who opposed striking down the landmark decision said 2-1 that the economy will be more important to their vote in November.

“This fall, Roe is on the ballot,” Biden said from the White House, adding that the decision “casts a dark shadow over a large swath of the land.”

Though not unexpected, the court’s decision hit like a political and cultural earthquake, reshaping the relationship between millions of Americans and the government. Though the opinion will be celebrated by conservatives, it will almost certainly lead to protests, lawsuits and charges from the left that the nation’s highest court – ostensibly above the partisan fray – is just as political as the other branches of the federal government.

That’s exactly what happened when a draft opinion in Mississippi’s challenge to Roe v. Wade leaked May 2. The unprecedented breach of Supreme Court protocol, which showed how the conservative justices might overturn Roe, led to protests across the country. The opinion Friday appeared to closely track with the earlier leaked draft.

Anti-abortion groups, which had pushed for Friday’s outcome for decades, applauded the decision.

“Today marks an historic human rights victory for unborn children and their mothers and a bright pro-life future for our nation,” said Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America. “Every legislature in the land, in every single state and Congress, is now free to allow the will of the people to make its way into the law through our elected representatives.”

Experts say the decision may set off challenges to other rights that, like abortion, have been grounded in the 14th Amendment’s guarantee of due process. Many of those have been taken for granted for years, such as the right to same-sex marriage, the right to interracial marriage and the right to access contraception.

In a concurring opinion, Associate Justice Clarence Thomas said the Supreme Court should now “reconsider” some of those other rights established by the high court. No other member of

the court joined Thomas, and the court’s majority opinion stressed that other rights were not at issue in the case.

Democrats and groups that support abortion rights decried the decision.

“Today, the Republican-controlled Supreme Court has achieved the GOP’s dark and extreme goal of ripping away women’s right to make their own reproductive health decisions,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said in a statement. “Because of Donald Trump, Mitch McConnell, the Republican Party and their supermajority on the Supreme Court, American women today have less freedom than their mothers.”

The opinion follows a decades-long movement by conservatives to overturn the high court’s 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which established a constitutional right to abortion. The effort to roll back that right was aided by President Donald Trump, who was elected in 2016 in part on a promise to name justices who would overturn Roe v. Wade. Over the course of a single term, Trump managed to put three conservative justices on the high court.

At issue in the case is a Mississippi law that bans most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy – earlier than had been permitted under the high court’s previous decisions.

Jackson Women’s Health Organization, the last abortion clinic in Missis-

“Roe was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences.”

Associate Justice Samuel Alito
Writing the majority opinion

“After today, young women will come of age with fewer rights than their mothers and grandmothers had.”

Associate Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan
Writing the dissent

issippi, challenged the state law in 2018, asserting it conflicted with Roe v. Wade and a subsequent case in 1992 that upheld Roe. A 7-2 majority in Roe v. Wade established a constitutional right to abortion and allowed people to exercise the right until the end of the second trimester.

A subsequent decision in 1992, Planned Parenthood v. Casey, ended the trimester framework and allowed people to obtain an abortion until viability – the point when a fetus can survive outside the womb, or about 24 weeks into a pregnancy.

Two lower federal courts agreed with the clinic, citing Roe and Casey. Mississippi appealed, asking the Supreme Court not only to uphold its ban but also

to do away with the constitutional right to abortion altogether. Because the issue is so divisive and personal, the state argued, it should be decided by state lawmakers accountable to voters rather than by federal courts whose jurists enjoy lifetime appointments.

The frenzy around the case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, had almost as much to do with the justices who are on the high court as it does with the Mississippi law. Conservatives enjoy a 6-3 majority on the court for the first time since the Roosevelt administration. Three of them were nominated by Trump: Associate Justices Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett.

Mississippi had explicitly asked the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade, calling it “dangerously corrosive to our constitutional system.” That is a more aggressive position than the state took when it first brought the case to the court in 2020.

For years, the legal battle over abortion has focused on regulating the procedure, such as requirements that minors inform their parents before ending a pregnancy or requiring doctors performing the procedure to have privileges at nearby hospitals. For anti-abortion groups, the Dobbs case represented the first opportunity in decades to focus squarely on whether the procedure itself is constitutional.



Demonstrators march outside the Supreme Court in Washington on Friday after justices ruled on Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization. Protests by anti-abortion and abortion rights groups were held nationwide. JOSH MORGAN/USA TODAY

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Battle to move into ‘every single state’

Abortion opponents look to enact new restrictions

John Fritze
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The decades-long fight over Roe v. Wade may be over, but the courtroom battles about abortion are not.

In a decision with enormous consequences for reproductive rights, the Supreme Court on Friday reversed its landmark Roe decision that established a constitutional right to abortion in 1973. Though that will make it more difficult for millions of Americans to obtain the procedure, it won't end the legal wrangling over how far conservative states may go to try to curb abortion more broadly.

Speaking to USA TODAY minutes before the decision was handed down, Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, said the ruling would allow anti-abortion rights advocates to be ambitious across the country.

“We’re going to go through every single state with our allies there and decide how ambitious can we be in this state,” she said.

Experts predict new laws and law-

suits will quickly crop up over whether states can clamp down on medication abortions, which account for 54% of terminated pregnancies. Some conservative lawmakers are fighting with banning people from obtaining an abortion in more liberal states. Other lawsuits will probably emerge challenging abortion laws under state constitutions.

“There’s this roaring river of controversy over Roe,” Sheriff Girgis, a professor at Notre Dame Law School, said in an interview before the ruling. “That river will just be dashed into 100 streams.”

The nation’s highest court ruled Friday that a Mississippi law banning most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy is constitutional, even though its prior decisions in Roe and Planned Parenthood v. Casey, a case in 1992, established a different timeline that allowed the procedure until about 23 weeks. To resolve that conflict, a majority of the court ruled that its precedents were based on a faulty reading of the Constitution.

“We hold that Roe and Casey must be overruled,” Associate Justice Samuel Alito wrote for a 6-3 majority. “The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision.”

That outcome, which closely mirrored a leaked draft opinion in the case, will shift focus to the states – about half

of which have laws banning abortion or are likely to pass them quickly. The other half have protections or will probably soon move to protect the right to abortion for their residents. Experts said the bifurcated system could lead to challenges in state and federal courts.

In Michigan, anticipating the Roe decision, state courts wrestled with whether a 1931 law banning most abortions could be enforced in the absence of Roe. A Michigan judge blocked enforcement of that law May 17, asserting that abortion rights are probably protected under the state’s constitution.

Missouri eyed a law this year that would discourage residents from crossing into neighboring Illinois or other states for the procedure. Those measures, should they become law, would run up against challenges based on the federal government’s power to regulate interstate commerce, as well as the rights of Americans to travel from state to state. Legal experts said there is considerable gray area in some of the rights most Americans take for granted.

“The law is very underdeveloped in this area,” David Cohen, a professor at the Thomas R. Kline School of Law at Drexel University, said this year.

Nineteen states require clinicians to be physically present when they provide a medication abortion, according

to the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights. Indiana and Texas set outright bans on medication abortion at certain points in pregnancy. Not only could those laws be challenged, but enforcing them will be difficult in situations where abortion drugs are sent by mail.

If the high court had gone in another direction, predicting the legal fights would have been more straightforward. A majority could have upheld Mississippi’s 15-week ban but limited the constitutional right established in Roe and later cases rather than overturning it. That would have set up challenges over bans at earlier points in pregnancy, such as Arkansas’ ban at 12 weeks or Oklahoma’s ban at six weeks. Texas approved a ban on most abortions after six weeks.

The big question is where conservative states go from here.

The court must figure out whether there is “any limit on what states can do,” Mary Ziegler, a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, said in an interview before the opinion was released.

Could a state, Ziegler posed as an example, ban abortion without an exception for the life of the mother?

“Eventually,” Ziegler predicted, “there’ll be anti-abortion groups arguing that blue state abortion laws are unconstitutional.”

Reaction

Continued from Page 1D

patients in front of us, and we have to continue working like this isn’t happening, even when it is.”

Elsewhere, anti-abortion rights activists celebrated. “I am overjoyed,” said Connie Lang of Norman, Oklahoma. “This is not a negative for women. This is the biggest positive that’s ever happened.”

The high court ruling Friday overturned Roe v. Wade, the landmark decision in 1973, and erased national reproductive rights in place for nearly five decades.

“Now we get back to building up a healthy society, affirming life for women and their children, born and preborn,” said Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life.

‘The tide has turned’

“Today is not just a historic day – it is a new day,” said Jor-El Godsey, president of Heartbeat International, which trains pregnancy organizations worldwide to counsel women in hopes they will not have abortions. Godsey said the ruling ends “50 years of injustice for the unborn and 50 years of the craven politicization of women’s health.”

Mark Harrington, president of Created Equal, a national anti-abortion rights organization, said, “The tide has turned for preborn children.”

“A new era of the abortion battle has now begun! By meeting the needs of abortion-vulnerable parents and continuing to change public opinion, we are ready for the challenge of a post-Roe America,” Harrington said in a statement.

The anti-abortion rights organization 40 Days for Life, whose volunteers pray outside Planned Parenthood clinics, announced it will hold vigils outside its locations. The group said in a statement that the decision will set “the stage for a grassroots fight to end abortion on the local level.”

“Although this is a huge victory and a tremendous moment in history, we’re not popping any champagne bottles just yet,” co-founder Shawn Carney said in a statement. “Now is when the real work begins.”

Tony Lauinger, state chairman of Oklahomans for Life, said he was “gratified and happy” about the ruling. Lauinger said he got involved with the anti-abortion rights movement after the birth of his firstborn in 1972, a few months before Roe v. Wade was decided. Reading headlines of the court’s decision in 1973 felt like a smack in the face, Lauinger said. Nearly 50 years later, the ruling Friday marks “the beginning of a new phase of the pro-life efforts,” he said.

Abortion rights activists scheduled protests in more than a dozen cities, from New York and Boston to Los Angeles, Seattle and San Francisco.

“The people need to stand up, to bring the gears of society to a grinding halt through nonviolent mass resistance to compel the federal government



Abortion rights activists show their anger outside the Supreme Court on Friday when the conservative majority of justices ruled that abortion is not a federally protected right under the Constitution. JACK GRUBER/USA TODAY

to reverse such a decision by codifying into law access to abortion on demand nationwide,” Sunsara Taylor of Rise Up 4 Abortion Rights said in a statement.

A Pew Research Center survey this year found that 61% of Americans say abortion should be legal in all or most cases, and 37% say it should be outlawed in all or most cases.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, an abortion rights research group, there were about 930,000 abortions in the USA in 2020, down from a national high of about 1.6 million in 1990.

“What if something were to happen where I needed to have an abortion? I’m not ready to raise a child, I know that for sure,” Charm Wolford, 15, in Athens, Georgia, told the USA TODAY Network. “I shouldn’t be fighting for rights that I should just have, when I can’t even vote for them.”

Advocate Linda Taggart called the ruling a “disaster.” She worked as an administrator for the Ladies Center in Pensacola, Florida, from 1974 until the early 2000s, when she retired. During that time, the clinic was bombed twice, and two doctors were murdered.

“This makes me sick to my stomach,” Taggart, 83, told the USA TODAY Network. “Women are going to lose their lives having illegal abortions. Only the women with money will be able to travel to obtain an abortion.”

Her daughter, Keri, worked at the clinic in the 1990s and was there the day Dr. John Britton and his bodyguard, James Barrett, were murdered by an anti-abortion extremist in the clinic’s parking lot. “We’re going to go back to the back-alley abortions,” Keri Taggart said. “Women are going to find a way to get an abortion – whether they get it done safe and legal, or they do it themselves. That’s just how it is.”

For Vangela M. Wade, president and CEO of the Mississippi Center for Justice, which served as co-counsel for the Supreme Court case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, Friday was “a dark day.”

“Today, the Supreme Court has ruled that the government gets to decide whether and when a woman has a child,” Wade said in a statement. “Now,

states across the nation will ban abortion, entirely destroying women’s ability to control their own bodies. It’s abusive, dangerous and unconstitutional.”

Trigger laws to go into effect

The Guttmacher Institute estimated 26 states are certain or likely to ban abortion.

A “trigger law” goes into effect immediately in Kentucky – home state of U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, who was instrumental in appointing conservative justices who voted in favor of overturning Roe v. Wade.

Outside EMW Women’s Surgical Center, the state’s lone full-time abortion clinic, a few demonstrators gathered. Joseph Spurgeon, a pastor at a church in nearby Jeffersonville, Indiana, said they came to celebrate “the grace of God,” adding that he will lead his congregation in pushing to outlaw medications capable of terminating pregnancies and contraceptives such as Plan B.

In Tennessee, the ruling triggered a 30-day countdown to a near-total abortion ban that has no exceptions for rape and incest. It places the legal burden on doctors to prove an abortion was necessary to prevent death and they made a best-faith effort to deliver a live infant.

Katrina Green, a Nashville emergency room doctor and an abortion rights activist, told the USA TODAY Network her heart goes out to any Tennessean who is “angry or afraid about what will happen in our state.”

“As a physician, I am worried more than ever for my pregnant patients,” Green said. “They will no longer have options available to them. We will see suffering, and we will see deaths as a result of this.”

In Texas, which also has a 30-day countdown, it will be a felony to perform an abortion at any point in pregnancy.

“While today we mourn this loss and the court’s failure, we must transform our grief into action by caring for our communities,” said Val Benavidez, president of Texas Freedom Network, an Austin-based organization of liberal religious and community leaders.

In Wyoming, the founders of the state’s sole abortion clinic vowed to open despite the ruling. The clinic was set on fire weeks before it was supposed to open this month, and authorities investigated the blaze as arson.

“We are continuing to work toward opening our clinic, and our goal remains to provide compassionate abortion care as long as legally permitted,” Julie Burkhart, the founder of Wellspring Health Access in Casper, said in a statement.

“We’re devastated,” said Tamya Cox-Touré, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma.

In May, a state law banning abortions after the point of fertilization went into effect. Andrea Gallegos, head of the Tulsa Women’s Clinic, said the facility has been unable to provide abortions and has seen “complete despair and desperation from patients when we’ve had to tell them we can’t see them.”

Reproductive rights groups challenged the law and other restrictions passed this year in lawsuits pending before the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Advocates will try to point people to states where they can get abortions legally. “We are still in this fight, and our work does not stop just because Roe v. Wade is overturned,” Cox-Touré said.

In Missouri, Elijah Haahr, who led the state House in 2019 when it passed a bill that included a “trigger law,” told the USA TODAY Network he was “euphoric, jubilant” about Friday’s decision.

“When we put together the Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act in 2019, we included the trigger amendment, but I don’t think any of us that were working on it at the time thought we would see this decision anytime soon,” Haahr said.

States prepare for surges

Lawmakers, activists and medical professionals in states where abortion is legal said they expect to see a surge of people traveling long distances.

Colorado, Illinois and Florida have become oases of sorts for people seeking abortions from surrounding states that have more restrictive or no access.

“As representatives of the vast majority of Coloradans who support reproductive healthcare access, we will never back down,” the Colorado Reproductive Health Rights and Justice Coalition said in a statement.

Florida is likely to see an influx of patients as access collapses across the South. Advocates expect Republicans in the state to push for further restrictions beyond a 15-week ban set to go into effect in July.

Kelly Flynn, president of A Woman’s Choice clinic in Jacksonville, Florida, said Friday’s news left her in shock. “Let me finish crying,” Flynn told USA TODAY in a text message.

Contributing: Rebecca Johnson, The Austin American Statesman; Melissa Brown, The Tennessean; Dana Branham, The Oklahoman; Galen Bacharier, Springfield News-Leader; Patricia Fernier, The Coloradoan; Antigone Barton and Hannah Phillips, The Palm Beach Post; Alex Anteau, Athens Banner-Herald; Lucas Aulbach, The (Louisville) Courier-Journal; Emily Bloch, The Florida Times-Union

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Rep. Cori Bush of Missouri



Rep. Cori Bush, 45, was raped and became pregnant at age 17.

“I realized that maybe I should take a test,” Bush said. “I just did it because that’s just what I thought that you do, but I never thought it would come back positive.”

When it came back positive, an “ashamed” Bush realized she must have become pregnant after being sexually assaulted on a recent church trip.

Bush initially didn’t tell anyone about the pregnancy, hoping that somehow it wasn’t real. She eventually called a few friends but the would-be father wouldn’t talk to her.

“I didn’t know how to go to my parents and tell them this is what was going on,” Bush said.

So she went to the Yellow Pages and found the name of a clinic she had learned about from her friends to make an appointment.

During her counseling session, she expected offers of help but instead was told by a counselor “that I was just going to be on welfare and food stamps and that it was best for me to just abort the child,” Bush said. “There was no conversation about adoption, or whatever, any options other than ‘you need to have this abortion today.’”

Bush is no stranger to sharing her personal life in order to try to push policy change after leading the fight to extend the eviction moratorium.

“It is tough reliving some of the most traumatic moments I’ve experienced in my life, and not only reliving them, but speaking to them before the public and then knowing that opens the door very, very wide for scrutiny and criticism,” she said.

Still, Bush said while tearing up, “I am a true believer that if you can, be what you needed. If you’re in a position to do that, be what you needed in the moment that you needed.”

Missouri immediately banned abortions after Roe was overturned. Bush fears what will happen to women who don’t have the resources to go out of state to access an abortion, especially women of color.

“It took me a full two weeks’ paycheck to be able to pay for that abortion,” she said. “I think about who will be left behind, who will be left out. This is all about control. And I won’t just sit back quietly.”

Rep. Pramila Jayapal of Washington



Rep. Pramila Jayapal, 56, was living in India the first time she got pregnant.

“I had a complete intention to come back and have a very natural home birth. But that was not to be,” Jayapal said, recalling her doctor saying there was a chance she would die during the pregnancy due to complications.

Upon returning to the U.S. after giving birth to a 1 pound, 14 ounce baby, Jayapal suffered from postpartum depression and wondered if her child would survive. She contemplated suicide at one point.

“It was only when I really got to a place where I actually got up on a window ledge that I realized I needed care and was struggling to go see a therapist and my postpartum depression issues were diagnosed,” she said.

Given her health history, Jayapal took precautions to not become pregnant again. Despite her best efforts, she did.

“I would have loved to have more children. But I knew that there was no way I could do it,” she said. After consulting with her doctor, Jayapal decided to have an abortion.

“I realized I had to take care of my daughter and I had to take care of myself and I was not ready to try to have another birth.”

She spoke to Planned Parenthood and got a referral from her doctor.

“I did not have the concerns of not being able to afford the abortion as so many low-income women do, and I got excellent service,” Jayapal said. “... I had somebody to drive me there and somebody to hold me afterwards and somebody to drive me home and I had no protesters trying to argue that this was not my decision to make.”

Rep. Barbara Lee of California

Rep. Barbara Lee, 75, remembers feeling “very afraid” when she realized she missed a period at age 15.

Upon learning of her pregnancy, Lee decided to have an abortion. “It was a

Members of Congress share abortion stories

Dylan Wells USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – Seven lawmakers make up a unique caucus on Capitol Hill: those who have shared publicly that they or their partner have had an abortion.

The seven have different stories but all are Democrats, all are parents and all are furious about the rollback of abortion rights by the Supreme Court.

“The opinion is so misogynistic that I can’t even begin to even put into words how vile I think the decision is,” said Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., who was the first sitting member to share her story in 2011. Like the other six, she spoke to USA TODAY after a draft of the opinion leaked in May but before it became official Friday.

Aside from Speier, the other House members are Cori Bush of Missouri, Pramila Jayapal of Washington, Barbara Lee of California, Gwen Moore of Wisconsin and Marie Newman of Illinois. The lone senator – and only man in the group – is Gary Peters of Michigan, whose ex-wife had an abortion.

Both Lee and Moore had their abortions before Roe was decided in 1973. In separate interviews, all of the lawmakers said they were reluctant to share their trauma and intimate stories with the public but felt it necessary given the reversal of abortion rights.

USA TODAY is the first news organization to conduct interviews with all seven about their abortions since the draft ruling leaked.



personal decision that my mother and I made together,” she recalled.

“My mother was always a can-do kind of woman. It’s like, OK, let’s see what the options are, let’s talk about it. And that’s what we did,” she said. “I didn’t want her to worry about me and I knew she would, and it was really hard for me to tell her how afraid I was. I didn’t tell her, but she knew.”

Lee’s mother called a friend in El Paso, Texas – where Lee was born and raised – who said she knew a doctor across the border in Juarez, Mexico, who had a reputation for providing safe abortions.

Lee feared dying from the procedure or getting arrested.

“I knew that they were illegal,” she reflected. “... I was really in a lot of ways worried that someone was going to catch me and then put me in jail.”

Lee says her abortion was literally in a back alley. Her mother’s friend drove her late at night to a small clinic that Lee remembers as clean and professional but dimly lit so the police wouldn’t notice.

“I felt comfortable once I got in there. Even though I was still afraid, it wasn’t like a makeshift clinic,” she said. After the procedure, Lee said, she felt relieved but was worried someone would find out – not just because of the stigma, but because abortion was illegal.

“All those thoughts went through my mind, hoping that nobody found out and hoping that I didn’t get sick.”

She expressed concern for the particular impact of the Supreme Court’s decision on Black and brown women.

“Disproportionate numbers of Black women live below the poverty line. They’re in economic distress, they’re living on the edge,” she said. They’re “going to be disproportionately impacted by this.”

Rep. Gwen Moore of Wisconsin



Rep. Gwen Moore, 71, had an abortion and later worked as a counselor at an abortion clinic.

Moore became pregnant on her 18th birthday.

At the time, she didn’t even contemplate an abortion.

“I would say that I (didn’t have) any ‘options’ or ‘choices.’ I didn’t know how to get an abortion or whatever,” she said. On New Year’s Day 1970, she went into labor with her daughter.

“I had no phone. I had no cab fare. I had no money and I didn’t have then a dime to use the telephone booth,” she said. “... The child’s father was not attentive to me at all.”

Moore waited for her neighbors to return home and then used their phone to call an ambulance.

“My first lifeline is Medicaid,” she noted. “And I say this because when I hear people opine and weigh in about, you know, ‘People who are poor are just predators and they’re takers,’ I think about my situation.”

Moore said she was traumatized at the hospital by the experience of giving birth.

“I really felt like I had been gang raped when they let every single medical student that was anywhere around come in and shove their arm into my vagina to feel the baby,” Moore said.

When Moore became pregnant again a year later, she immediately knew she wanted an abortion.

Moore went to Planned Parenthood, which connected her to a doctor in Madison who connected her with a group called the Women’s Fund.

“I didn’t want to try to harm myself. But I can say that I might have been vulnerable because that was how desperate I was not to be pregnant,” she said.

The organization flew her to New York City for the procedure.

“I had never been to New York before. It was a frightening experience for me. I had never seen that many people, human beings in one place at the same time. And I felt so absolutely, totally and completely alone,” she said.

“I had absolutely no complications physically, mentally or any other thing,” she said. “It was so clear that this was the right thing for me to do.” She had her next child eight years later.

“I shared my story because I saw myself standing in the shoes of that woman who was now going to have her fourth child just simply because she just couldn’t put together the money. ... Abortions will always be available to people with money.”

Rep. Marie Newman of Illinois



Rep. Marie Newman, 58, defeated one of the last remaining anti-abortion Democrats in a 2020 primary to win her seat but did not share her story until after the decision draft leaked last month.

Newman was 19 when she had an abortion. When she found out she was pregnant, she said she “immediately started crying.”

“I don’t have the emotional ability, the financial ability, the time or the wherewithal to take on something as important as being a parent,” she recalled.

“At the time I was scrubbing tables and floors to get through college, had two jobs, an internship, and had a full 18-hour load in college, so I just couldn’t imagine,” Newman said. “How will I raise this child, and how will I carry a child for nine months? How will I pay for its delivery? How will I pay for its upbringing? How will this child be brought up given that I am a less than optimal parent at this point my life now?”

She made a pro and con list to help make her decision. “It was one of the most difficult times of my life. ...

“I talked to a counselor before and after. And they said: ‘I think you made the right decision for you,’” Newman said. “‘She’s like, ‘You have to own your own body.’ And it was the first time someone kind of gave me permission to be OK with making my decisions because at 19, any decision is tough.”

Newman kept her pregnancy and decision secret until she was around 40 years old, when she told her now-husband.

“The shame of it was so deep,” she said. “You buy into things when you have a specific type of upbringing in a deeply Catholic household, a deeply Republican household – that you don’t have agency over your body, that you should not be able to make bodily decisions for yourself ...

“The one misstep I may have made is that if I had talked about my abortion sooner, I probably would have stopped shaming myself, for decades, literally.”

Sen. Gary Peters of Michigan



Sen. Gary Peters’ now-ex-wife had an abortion while they were expecting their second child after a complication-free first pregnancy.

“Towards the end of the fourth month, really kind of surprisingly, my ex-wife experienced the water breaking and realized that something was really wrong,” said Peters, 63. She went to her doctor, who told her the lack of amniotic fluid was “catastrophic.”

Peters said the doctor told them she could get an infection and there could be serious medical repercussions but “that he still detected a faint heartbeat from the baby.”

“His advice at that point was basically just to go home and over the night she would have a miscarriage,” Peters said. “It was a very horrible night, very anxious night. A lot of emotion, a lot of sadness. The next morning, when we woke up, the miscarriage did not occur.”

They returned to the doctor, who was surprised but still detected a faint heartbeat. The doctor informed Peters that he, therefore, could not perform an abortion. He recommended they return home again to continue to wait for a miscarriage.

After another night of “anguish” with no miscarriage but still a faint heartbeat, they petitioned the hospital board to permit an abortion. The board turned them down.

Luckily, said Peters, they had a friend who was an administrator at a different hospital who was able to get them in to see an OB-GYN.

“That doctor examined her and said, ‘I have to do this procedure immediately. This is starting to get an infection and if I don’t do it soon, you will definitely lose your uterus. And if they’re delayed much longer, you could see your life would be in jeopardy.’ And so the procedure went forward, but it was just a horrific situation to be in,” he said.

“It was a horrible situation and to watch her go through that was terrible. But it still impacts men as well, impacts families, impacts everyone,” Peters said. “The pain doesn’t go away.”

Rep. Jackie Speier of California



Rep. Jackie Speier, 72, rose on the House floor in 2011 to tell her story during a debate over federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

“We very much wanted to have this second child,” Speier said. She went on a jog and felt uncomfortable after, so went to see the doctor. “They determined that the fetus had dropped through the cervix and into the vagina, and they put me in a bed with my head tilted to the floor, my legs up, with the hope that the fetus would return to the uterus. I was that way for about 24 hours, and that didn’t happen.”

At that point, Speier was 17 weeks pregnant and decided with her husband and doctor to terminate the pregnancy.

“I grieved about it, as I think every woman does when she has an abortion. And it was a very personal and profound experience that has been with me my whole life,” she said.

She did not plan to share the story. “A colleague on the Republican side was reading from a book in which he said that in these second trimester abortions, the fetus – they actually saw off the legs of the babies, and I got sick to my stomach,” Speier recalled.

“I stood up and said to my colleague: ‘How dare you? How dare you speak about something you know nothing about? I am a woman that has endured that procedure and it’s not done with any degree of joy. It’s done out of pain and grief. To somehow suggest that this is done cavalierly is preposterous.’”

Speiers told USA TODAY, “There needs to be a greater understanding among all of us about our personal experiences, and I think it would help us do our jobs better if we just listened to each other.”

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

The fall of Roe is now a key part of McConnell's legacy

Morgan Watkins
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — When historians look back at the architects of the fall of Roe v. Wade, U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell will be near the top of the list.

McConnell helped bring down Roe — a decadeslong goal of anti-abortion activists — by leveraging his leading role in the U.S. Senate to reshape the federal judiciary and the U.S. Supreme Court.

His legacy now includes the rollback of a nearly half-century-old constitutional right to abortion, which six Supreme Court justices — three of whom McConnell steered through the Senate confirmation gauntlet — have ruled never should have existed.

This ruling directly impacts McConnell's home state of Kentucky, where Roe's reversal triggered a near-total abortion ban, due to a law the GOP-controlled legislature passed in 2019.

Experts say such abortion bans will most heavily affect poorer people who can't afford to travel to a state where abortion remains legal. And Kentucky is one of the top 10 states with the highest percentage of people in poverty.

"The Supreme Court's landmark ruling in Dobbs is courageous and correct," Kentucky's longtime senator said in a statement Friday.

"Millions of Americans have spent half a century praying, marching, and working toward today's historic victories for the rule of law and for innocent life. I have been proud to stand with them throughout our long journey, and I share their joy today."

A national anti-abortion organization, Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, praised McConnell this month as a hero for his judicial work, which paid off with the court's ruling on Roe v. Wade.

"Leader McConnell's vision and courage have been critical to some of the biggest pro-life victories: the successful confirmation of three outstanding Supreme Court justices and over 200 federal court judges," the organization's president, Marjorie Dannenfelser, said in a statement.

McConnell froze out President Barack Obama's Supreme Court nominee, Merrick Garland, after Justice Antonin Scalia died in 2016 — a decision that impacted that year's presidential election, which Donald Trump went on to win.

Three months after Trump's inauguration, the McConnell-led Senate confirmed Justice Neil Gorsuch. Then Justice Anthony Kennedy's 2018 retirement led to the confirmation of Justice Brett Kavanaugh, whom McConnell supported even though he was accused of sexual assault.

Last but not least came Justice Amy Coney Barrett. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died less than two months before the 2020 presidential election, and McConnell made sure Barrett got confirmed before Election Day — after denying Obama the same opportunity. Barrett's confirmation gave Republican-nominated justices a supermajority on the nine-member court.

McConnell called Barrett's confirmation a "capstone" to his and the Trump administration's relentless work to transform the federal judiciary.

McConnell's actions earned the scorn of Jessica Loving, a former head of the Kentucky Commission on Women and the ACLU of Kentucky, who said he has been "instrumental in dismantling a lot of progress that had been made with civil rights and civil liberties in this country."

"I don't think (the) dismantling of women's reproductive rights was somehow a goal of Mitch's from the beginning," Loving told The Courier Journal, adding that McConnell stymied some proposed abortion restrictions as a Jefferson County official in the late 1970s. "I think it was a consequence of choices he made along the way, in terms of appeasing the individuals and organizations who supported his campaign because it was part of their agenda."

Rep. John Yarmuth, a Democrat who has known McConnell for decades, agreed, theorizing that reversing Roe was more useful for Republicans as a perennially unfulfilled goal the party could use to mobilize voters than as an accomplished feat.

McConnell was a more progressive member of the GOP when they met as



Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., ensured the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court before Election Day. SUSAN WALSH/POOL

"The Supreme Court's landmark ruling in Dobbs is courageous and correct."

Sen. Mitch McConnell

young Republicans more than 50 years ago, according to Yarmuth, although he said McConnell "denies that he was ever pro-choice." McConnell has a decadeslong record of supporting anti-abortion legislation on Capitol Hill.

Regardless, Yarmuth indicated this ruling — and the largely conservative court that handed it down — is now a pivotal piece of McConnell's legacy.

And he posted a prediction Friday of what that legacy's impact will be: "Let's be clear: This means people will suffer. It means women will die."

Today, six of the court's nine justices were nominated by a Republican president, and McConnell managed the confirmation process for half of them.

Scott Jennings, a Courier Journal columnist who was an adviser for McConnell on past reelection campaigns, said he doubts the senator thinks about specific, future rulings when handling judicial confirmations.

"I think he's thinking about: Do these justices fit my philosophy of strict adherence to the Constitution and a conservative view of what it means to be a judge?" he said. "I just think he's one of the pillars of the modern conservative judicial movement."

Regardless of whether people agree or disagree with McConnell's successful efforts to reshape the Supreme Court, University of Louisville law professor Samuel Marcosson said it's a fact that this is a huge part of the Kentuckian's legacy.

Speaking of McConnell and Trump, Marcosson said, "They did something unique in American history."

That's partly because judicial confirmations became more partisan over the past couple decades, Marcosson said. Now, a president must rely on a determined Senate majority leader's aid to get judges confirmed — and McConnell was "more than happy to play that role."

He even arranged a huge change to the Senate's rules for confirming Supreme Court justices to eliminate the filibuster, with the support of his fellow Republican senators, so they could greenlight Trump's nominees despite Democratic senators' opposition.

And in what he later called the "most consequential thing I've ever done," McConnell blocked Obama's high court nominee after Scalia died.

"By keeping that seat open ... that set the stage for the court to be completely reshaped," Marcosson said.

And on Friday, the trio of Trump-nominated justices ruled with Justices Samuel Alito, Clarence Thomas and John Roberts to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Although its fall is a major symbol of the transformation McConnell helped bring to the Supreme Court, Marcosson doesn't expect it will be the last.

"I don't think it's going to be, by any stretch of the imagination, the only earthquake-sized change we see," he said. "It's the big moment, but we should be prepared for a lot more moments in the future."

Trump, Harris, lawmakers and officials weigh in on ruling

Immediately after the Supreme Court's ruling on Friday to overturn Roe v. Wade, lawmakers and other elected officials and political appointees reacted to the end of Americans' constitutional right to an abortion.

Here's what they said about the decision:

Surgeon general: 'Major step backward for public health'



Murthy

Surgeon General Vivek Murthy on Friday called the Supreme Court's decision overturning Roe v. Wade "a major step backward for public health."

When reproductive health decisions are restricted, the number of unplanned pregnancies and unsafe abortions rises, he said.

"Health care providers, who are already under extraordinary strains due to the pandemic, will be forced into an impossible choice between doing what's right for their patients and complying with laws that are at odds with their patient's health interest," he continued.

Murthy said equitable access to reproductive health services is a "cornerstone for health."

— Maureen Groppe



Harris

Harris calls decision a 'health care crisis,' urges people to vote

The Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade has thrown the nation into a "health care crisis," Vice President Kamala Harris said Friday.

"Millions of women will go to bed tonight without access to the health care and reproductive care that they had this morning, without access to the same health care or reproductive health care that their mothers and grandmothers had for 50 years," Harris said at a YMCA in Illinois.

"For nearly 50 years, we have talked about what Roe v. Wade protects," Harris said. "Today, as of right now, as of this minute, we can only talk about what Roe v. Wade protected. Past tense."

Harris stressed that those who object to the decision need to make their voices heard at the ballot box.

"You have the power to elect leaders who will defend and protect your rights," she said. "With your vote, you can act. And you have the final word. So this is not over."

— Maureen Groppe

Warren: Expand high court, elect those who'll overturn filibuster



Warren

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., spoke out against what she called "extremists" that "cultivated far-right judges and spent billions in dark money" toward overturning Roe.

In a video, Warren called for Democrats to elect pro-abortion candidates who would overturn the filibuster in the Senate, which she called "a relic developed by racist politicians to defend Jim Crow."

Warren also pushed for senators to expand the Supreme Court, an idea she said is "not new or radical."

"The level of control that the Republican Party wants over individual Americans is undemocratic, and frankly, it is downright creepy," Warren said.

— Katherine Swartz



Greene

Greene calls Supreme Court ruling an 'answer to prayer'

Speaking to reporters outside the Capitol on Friday, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., called the Supreme Court's ruling an "answer to prayer" and said "we're going to protect life."

— Katherine Swartz

Trump praises decision for 'following the Constitution'

Former President Donald Trump, who nominated three members of the Supreme Court majority that struck

down Roe v. Wade, praised the decision that ended the constitutional right to an abortion.

In an interview with Fox News Digital, Trump said the decision reestablishes the rights of states to restrict or ban abortions.



Trump

"This brings everything back to the states where it has always belonged," Trump said.

Trump also said the decision "is following the Constitution, and giving rights back when they should have been given long ago."

As for supporters who favor abortion rights, Trump told FoxNews.com: "I think, in the end, this is something that will work out for everybody."

— David Jackson



Reeves

Mississippi governor applauds justices for courage, bravery

The fall of Roe v. Wade began in Mississippi at Jackson Women's Health Organization, which challenged the state's Gestational Age Law of 2018.

"I applaud the Supreme Court Justices for their courage in issuing this well-reasoned decision. It took bravery to stick to the courage of their convictions, especially amidst an unprecedented leak that was aimed at threatening the integrity of the Court, an assassination attempt, riot threats, and attacks on churches and pregnancy centers," he said in a statement.

Echoing other Republican governors, he emphasized his state would continue to "build a culture that supports mothers and children" through financial and supportive services.

— Katherine Swartz, Wicker Perlis

Collins: Ruling 'inconsistent' with justices' Senate testimony



Collins

Sen. Susan Collins, a moderate Republican from Maine who cast a decisive vote in nominating the justices who gave the Supreme Court a conservative majority, said the Roe decision is

"inconsistent" with what Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh said in their Senate confirmation hearings.

"They both were insistent on the importance of supporting long-standing precedents that the country has relied upon," she said in a statement Friday.

"Throwing out a precedent overnight that the country has relied upon for half a century is not conservative," she said. "It is a sudden and radical jolt to the country that will lead to political chaos, anger, and a further loss of confidence in our government."

— Candy Woodall



Abbott

Texas governor touts investment in abortion alternatives

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott applauded the Supreme Court's decision and emphasized the millions of dollars he has allocated toward supporting "women's health care and expectant mothers."

Texas has some of the most restrictive abortion laws in the nation, cutting off the procedure after a heartbeat is detected. That is typically in the sixth week of pregnancy, before many know they're pregnant.

— Katherine Swartz

Schumer calls Supreme Court 'extremist MAGA court'



Schumer

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said Friday's ruling the result of electing Republican supporters of former President Donald Trump.

"Today is one of the darkest days our country has ever seen," he said. "Millions upon millions of American women are having their rights taken from them by five unelected justices on the extremist MAGA court," Schumer added.

He said the decision makes "crystal clear the contrast as we approach the November elections."

— Candy Woodall



Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade – maps show how access to abortion will change

22 states will ban abortions quickly after Roe v. Wade was overturned;
13 states have ‘trigger’ laws that will ban abortion immediately

JENNIFER BORRESEN/USA TODAY

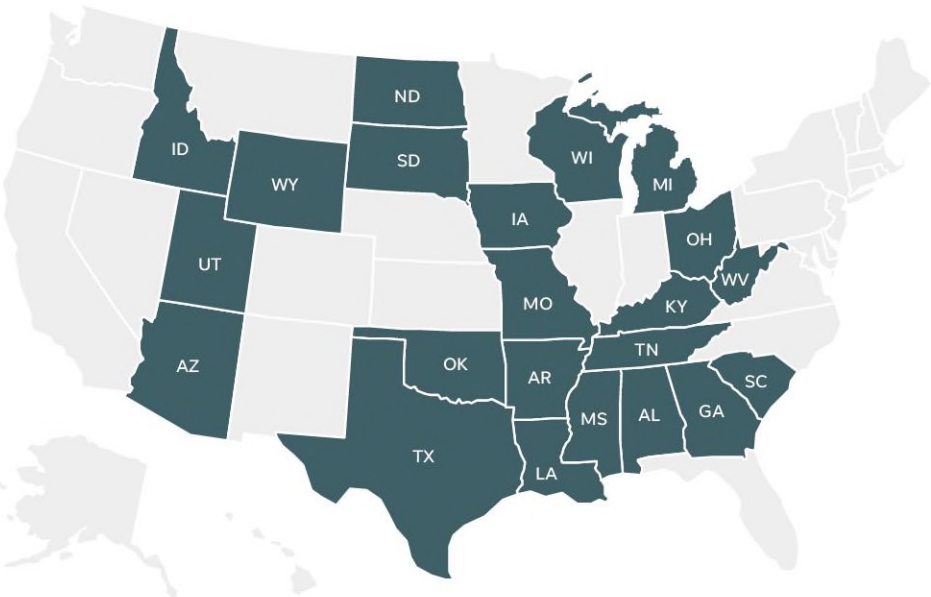
The Supreme Court has overruled Roe v. Wade, a monumental and controversial decision that held Americans do not have a constitutional right to abortion. The court voted 6-3 to uphold a Mississippi law that bans abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy. Chief Justice John Roberts joined that part of the decision but wrote separately to say he did not support directly overruling Roe.

On May 2, a leaked Supreme Court draft opinion that suggested Roe could be overturned left abortion rights supporters apprehensive and anti-abortion groups hopeful about the coming ruling. In the 1973 Roe v. Wade case, the Supreme Court ruled that the constitutional right to privacy included the right to terminate a pregnancy; however, it did not grant an absolute right to an abortion.

The court's decision means states can individually decide how to regulate abortion.

States can further restrict abortion with Roe overturned

Twenty-two states have laws that could be used to restrict the legal status of abortion, according to The Guttmacher Institute, an organization that works to study, educate, and advance sexual and reproductive health and rights.



As of June 6
SOURCE Guttmacher Institute

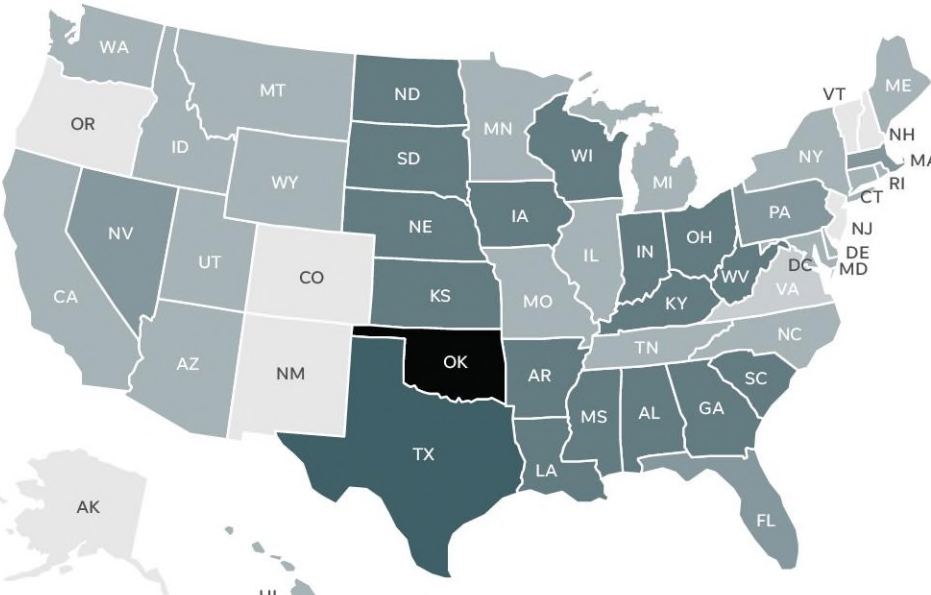
Of these 22 states, 13 have laws designed to be “triggered,” taking effect automatically or by quick state action, since Roe no longer applies. Nine states have an abortion ban on the books from before Roe v. Wade.

Abortion laws across the states

Since the Supreme Court ruled on Roe v. Wade in 1973, states have constructed a web of abortion law, limiting whether, when, and under what circumstances a person may obtain an abortion.

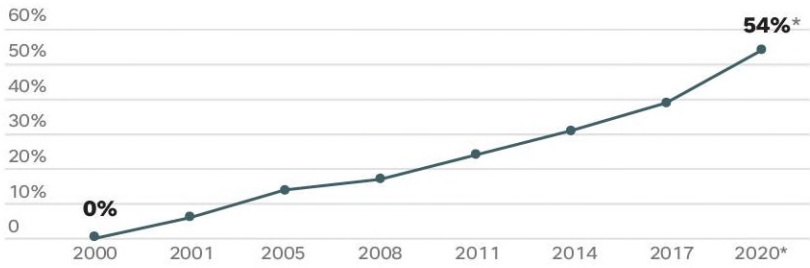
Forty-three states prohibit abortions after a specified point in pregnancy, with some exceptions. The limits of each state range from conception, passed in May in Oklahoma, to the third trimester in Virginia.

- No gestational age limit
- 3rd Trimester
- Viability
- 24 weeks
- 20 weeks
- 6 weeks
- Conception



As of June 6
SOURCE Guttmacher Institute

Medication abortions account for the majority of all US abortions. The number has grown rapidly since the process became easier to access in 2016:



*Based on preliminary data
SOURCE Guttmacher Institute

Where is abortion restricted?

How states would further restrict abortion:

	Pre-Roe ban	“Trigger” ban	Near-total ban	Six-week ban	Eight-week ban	State constitution bars protection
Ala.	●		●			●
Ariz.	●					
Ark.	●	●	●			
Ga.				●		
Idaho		●		●		
Iowa				●		
Ky.		●		●		
La.		●	●	●		●
Mich.	●					
Miss.	●	●		●		
Mo.		●			●	
N.D.		●		●		
Ohio				●		
Okla.	●	●	●	●		
S.C.				●		
S.D.		●				
Tenn.		●		●		●
Texas	●	●		●		
Utah		●	●			
W. Va.	●					●
Wisc.	●					
Wyo.		●				

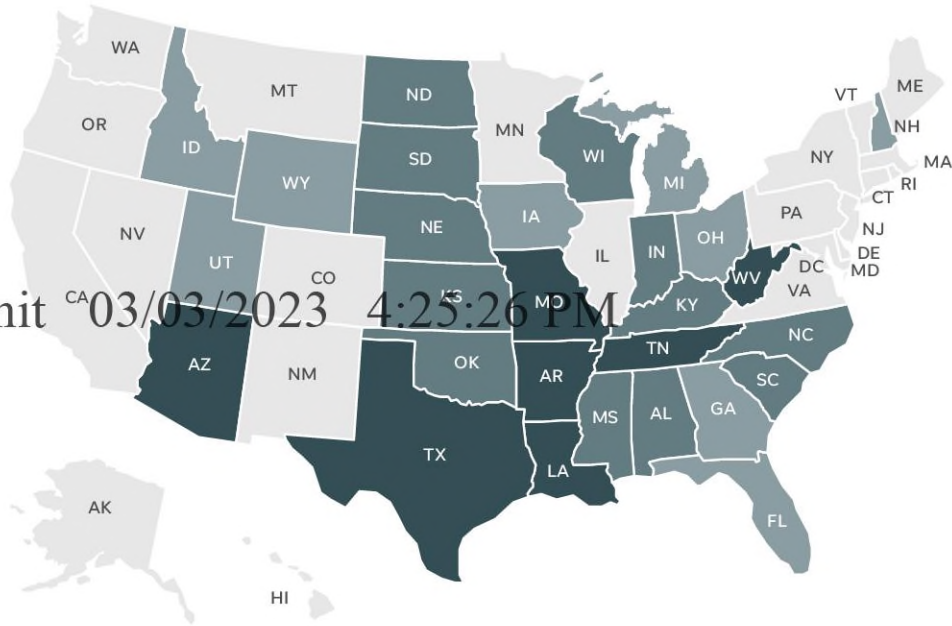
As of June 6
SOURCE Guttmacher Institute

What state policies affect use of telehealth for medical abortions?

Before 2020, all medication abortions required an in-person appointment. The Food and Drug Administration suspended that requirement during the pandemic, deciding that an in-person visit was an unreasonable barrier. The FDA permanently removed the in-person requirement in December 2021, allowing telemedicine visits and mailed pills.

Access to medication abortion hinges not only on the FDA’s decision but also on the abortion-specific regulations on the books in many states.

- No state laws limit access to telehealth abortions
- One in-person visit is required
- Two or more in-person visits are required
- Explicit ban on the use of telemedicine for medication abortion



As of May 2022
SOURCE Kaiser Family Foundation Analysis of State Laws